SILVER SURFER
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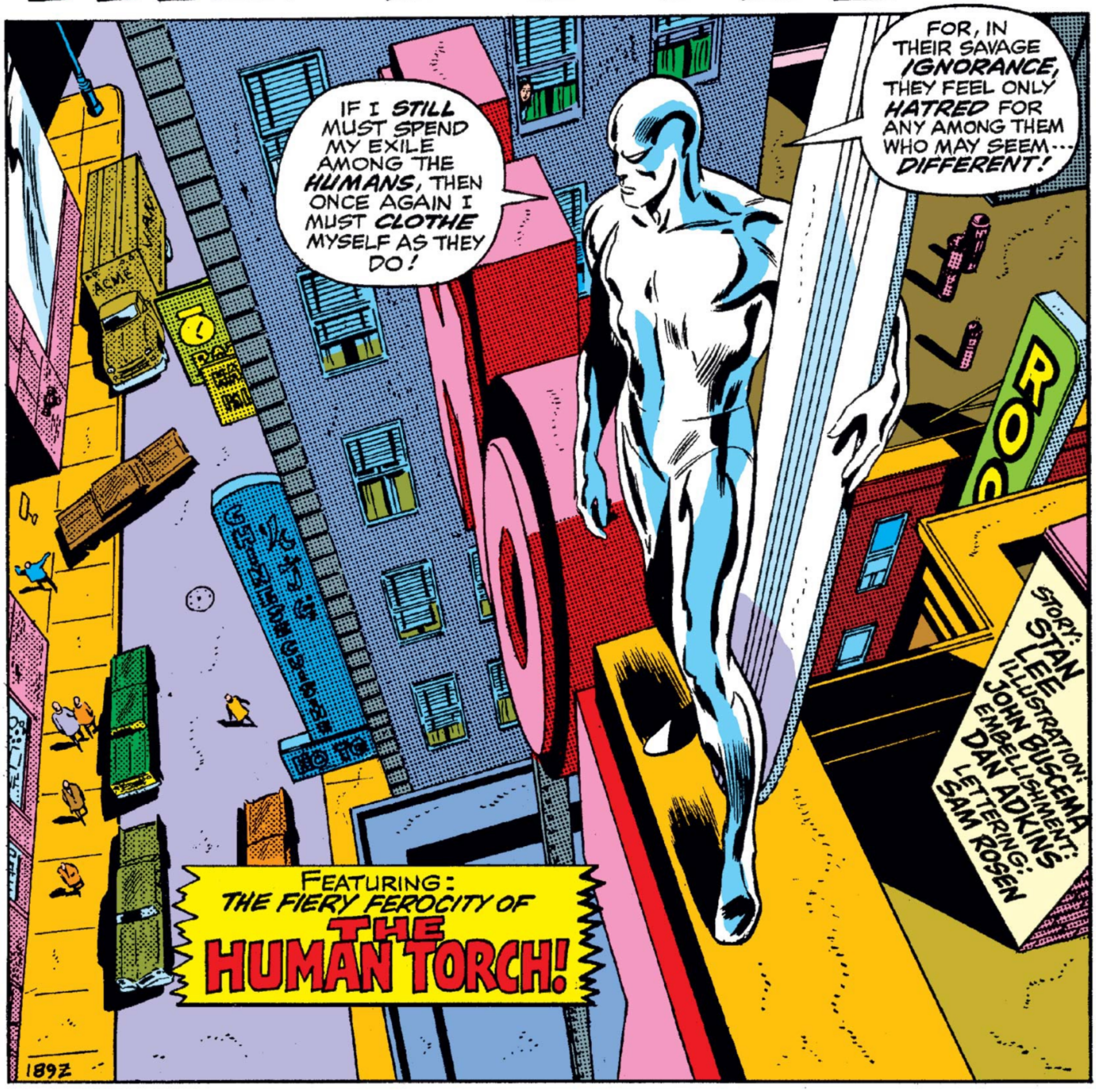
APR
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
BATTLING THE HUMAN TORCH!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE SILVER SURFER
SEE THE SURFER ATTACKED BY THE TORCH!

THE SILVER SURFER™

THE FLAME AND THE FURY!



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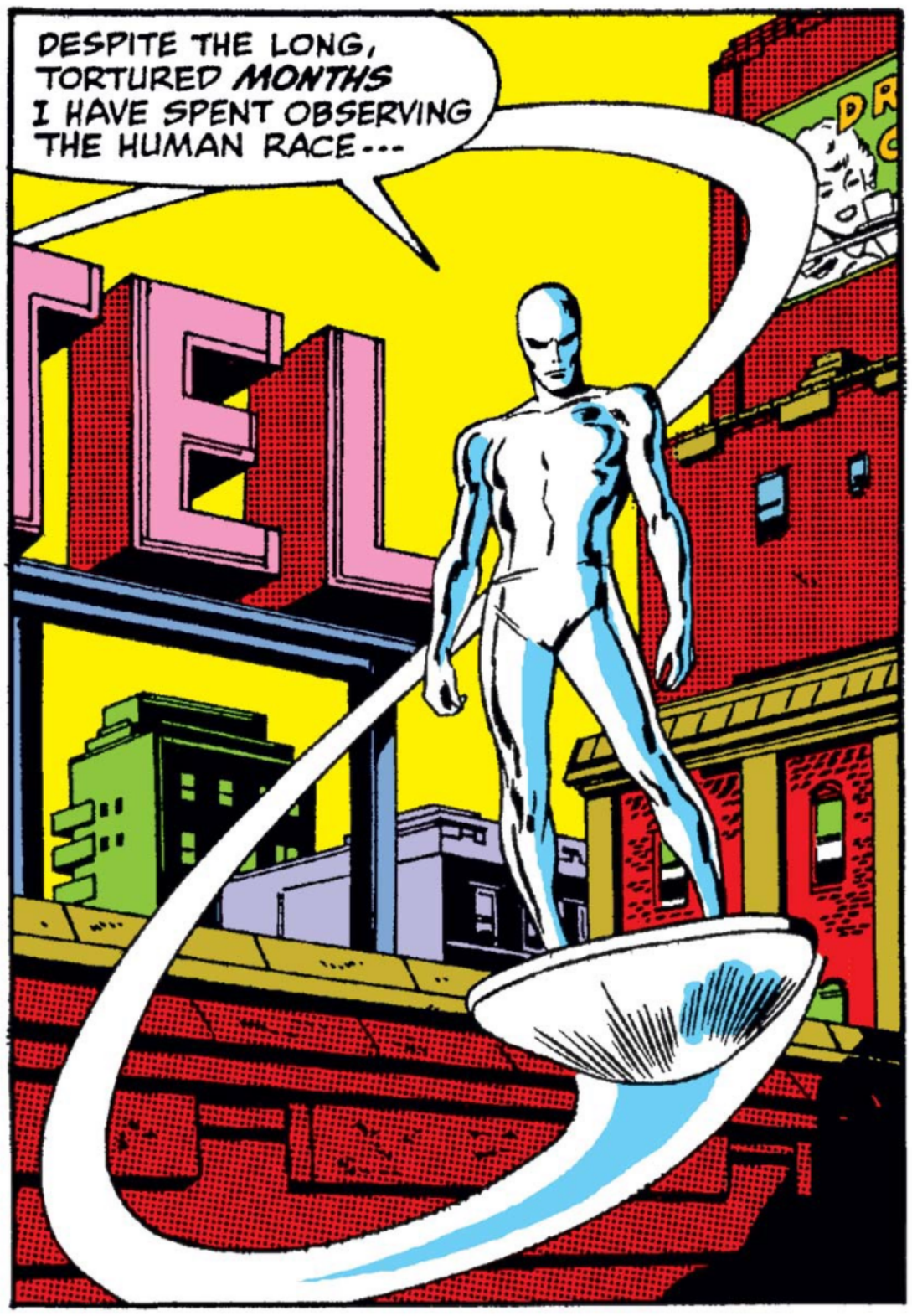
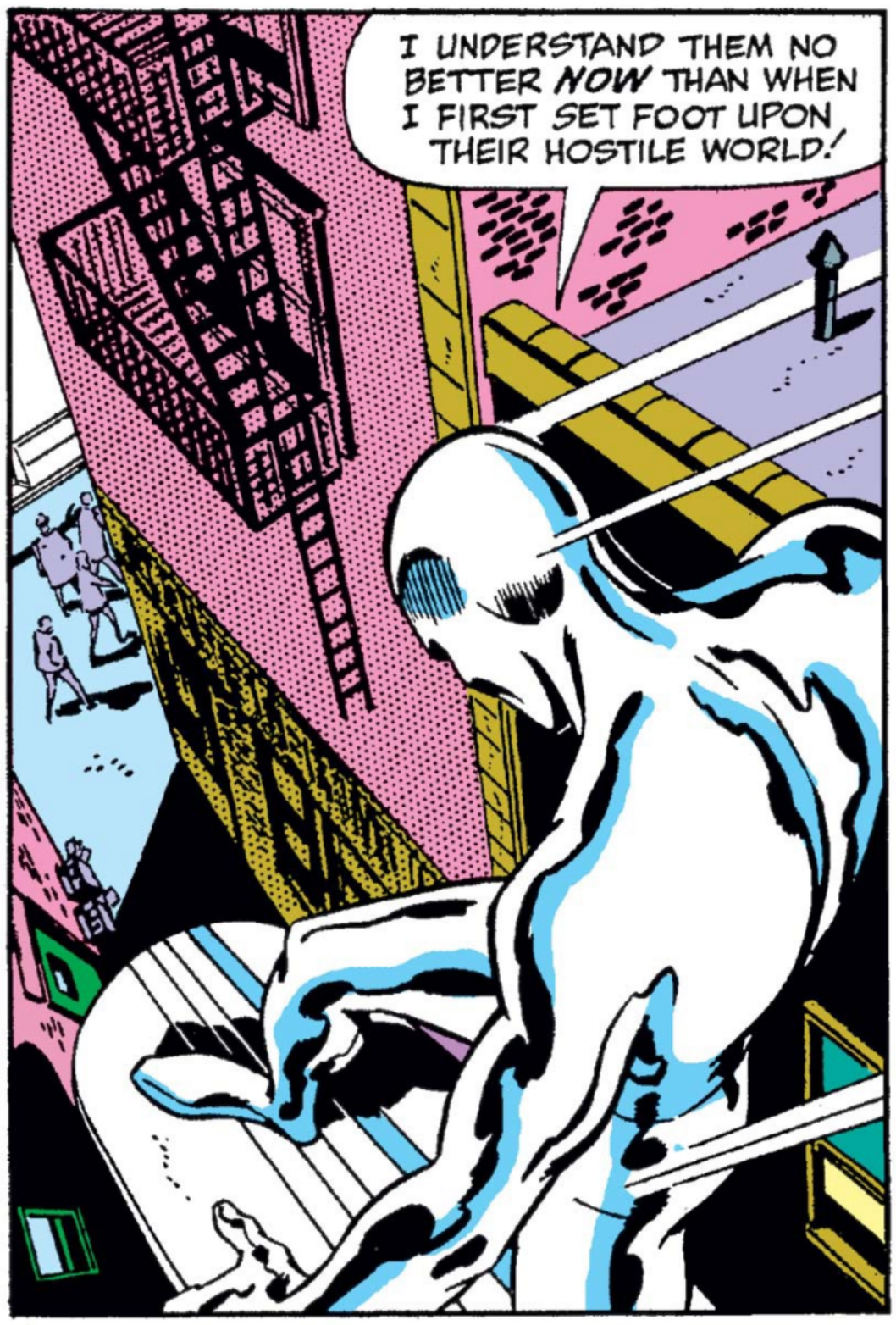
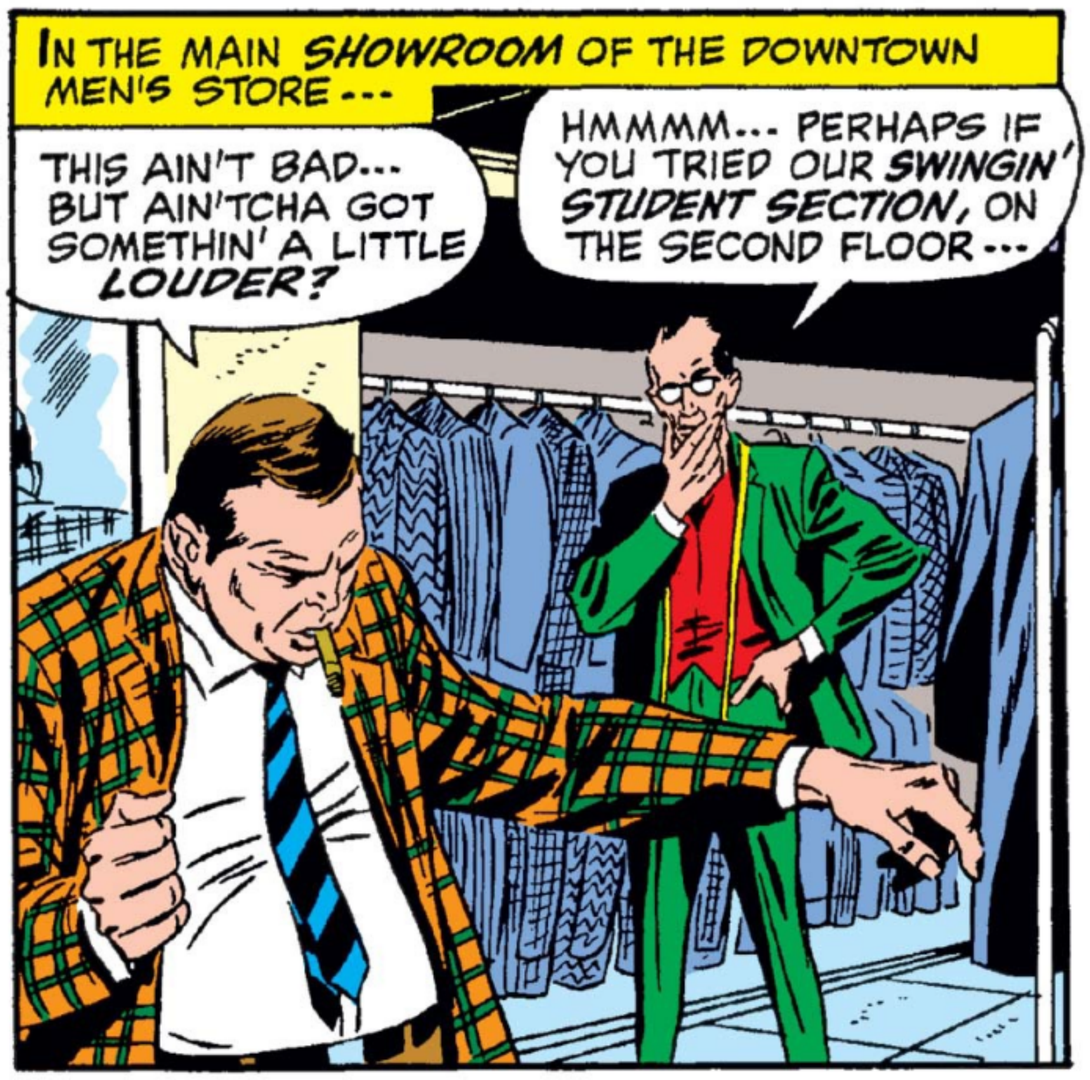

DESPITE THE LONG, TORTURED MONTHS I HAVE SPENT OBSERVING THE HUMAN RACE---

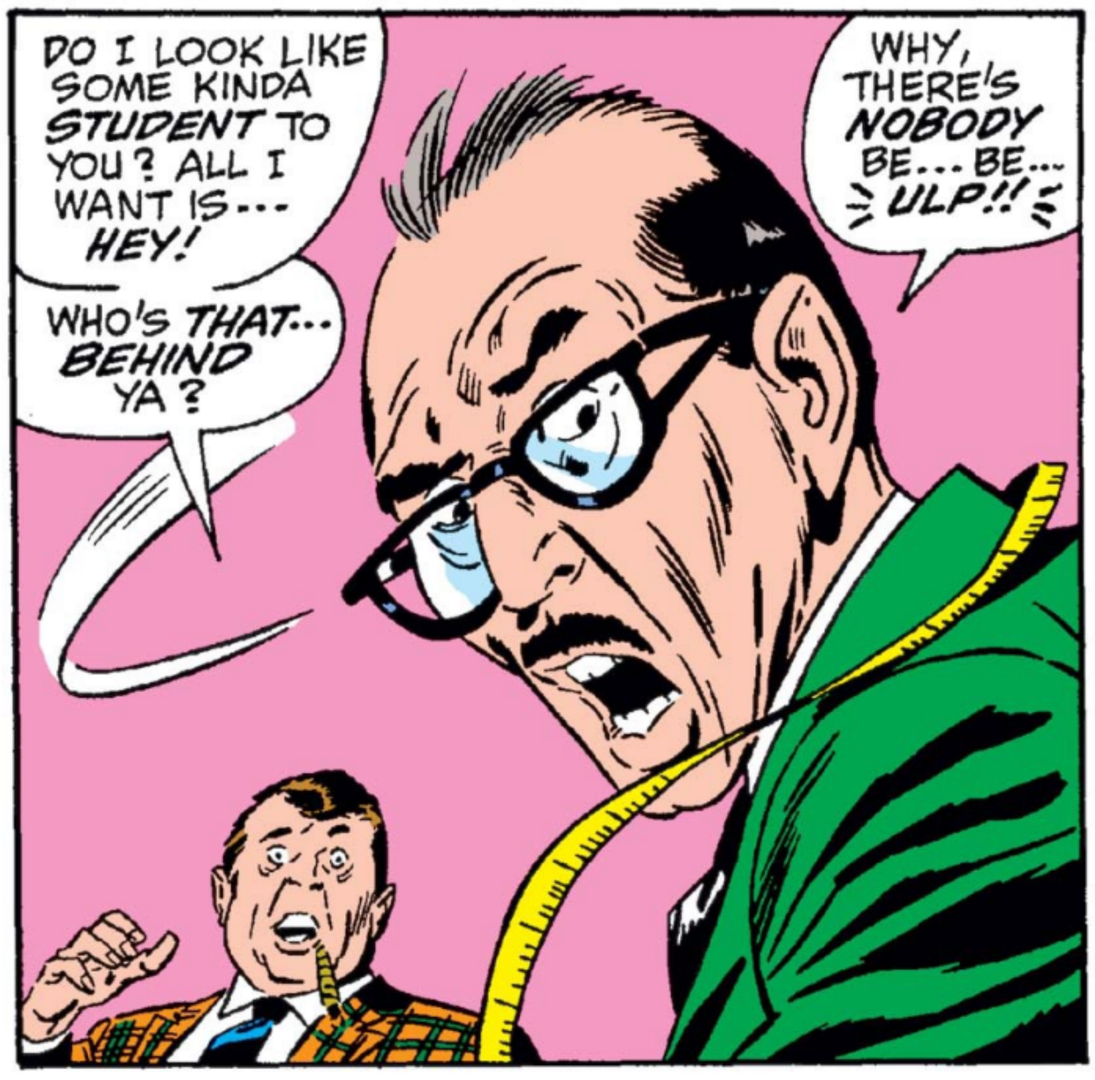

I UNDERSTAND THEM NO BETTER NOW THAN WHEN I FIRST SET FOOT UPON THEIR HOSTILE WORLD!

THEY LONG FOR PEACE, YET GIRD FOR WAR! THEY SEARCH FOR LOVE, YET HARBOR HATE!
IF MAN IS SANE...THEN THE UNIVERSE ITSELF IS STEEPED IN MADNESS!

BUT, MAD OR SANE, I STILL MUST WALK AMONG THEM!
EXCLUSIVE STYLES MEN'S CLOTHES
AND TO DO SO, I NEED EARTHLY GARB!
DELIVERY ENTRANCE

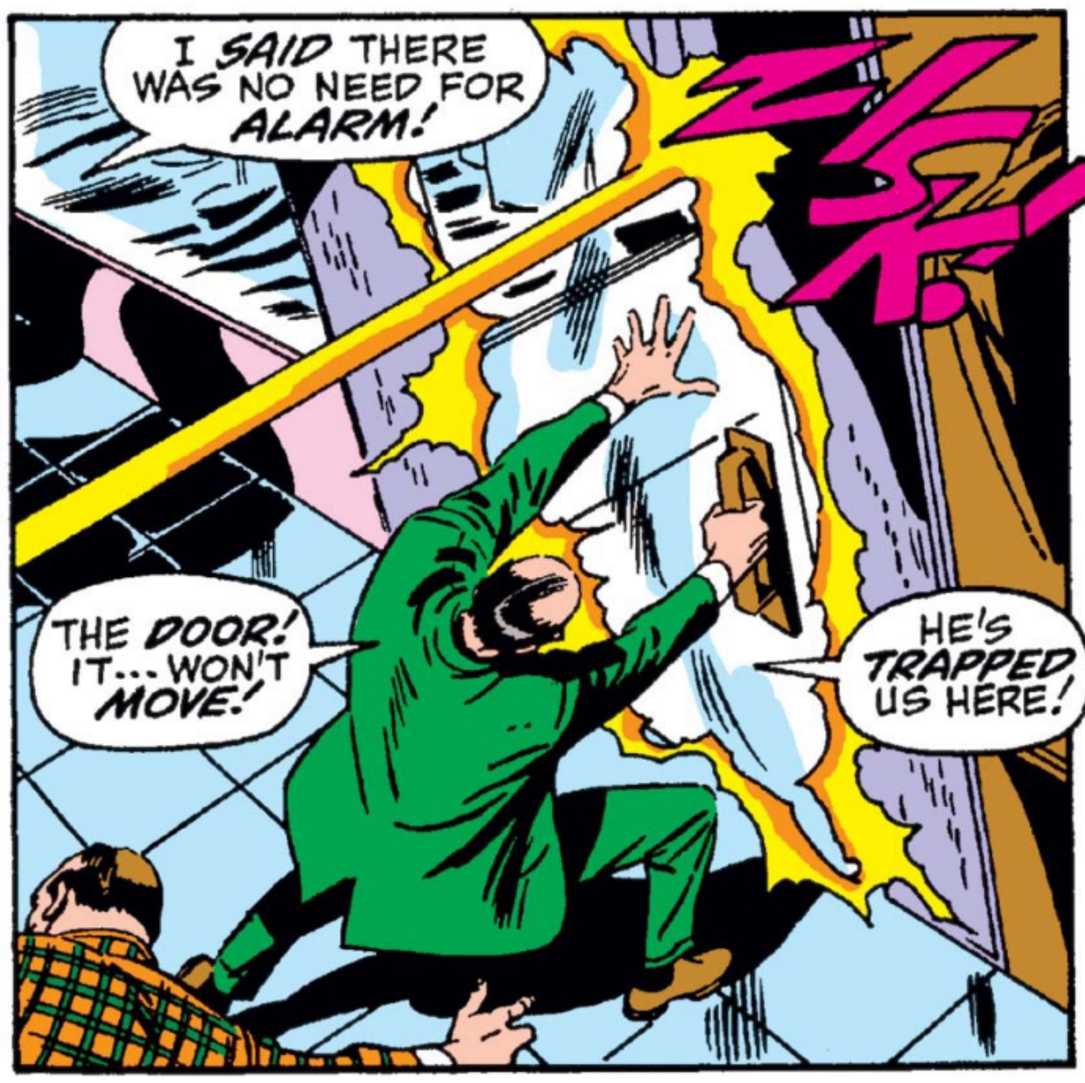
THOUGH THE DOOR IS LOCKED, MY POWER COSMIC WILL GAIN ME ENTRANCE!
KLAK!

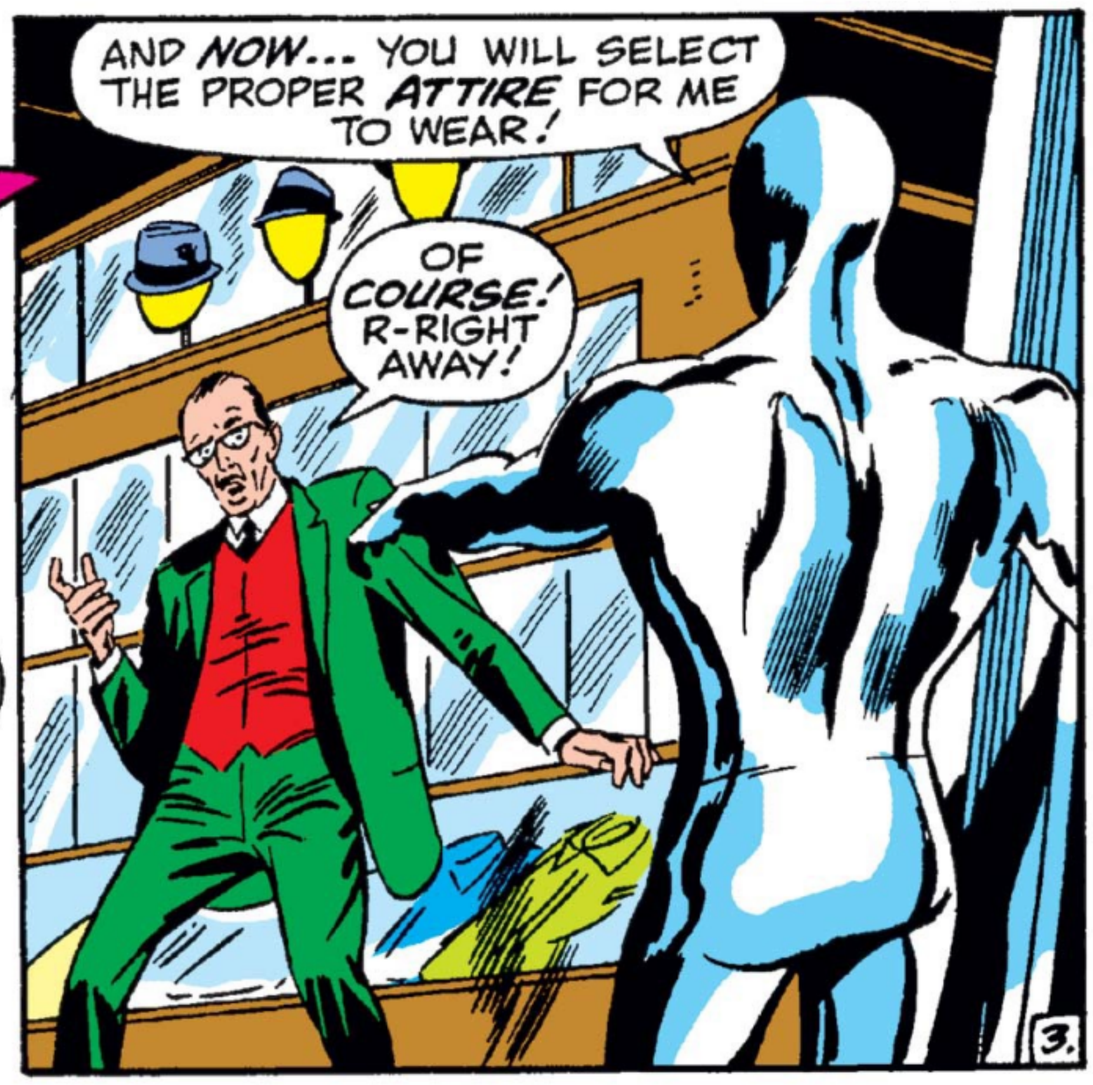

IN THE MAIN SHOWROOM OF THE DOWNTOWN MEN'S STORE ---
THIS AIN'T BAD... BUT AIN'TCHA GOT SOMETHIN' A LITTLE LOUDER?
HMMMM... PERHAPS IF YOU TRIED OUR SWINGIN' STUDENT SECTION, ON THE SECOND FLOOR ---

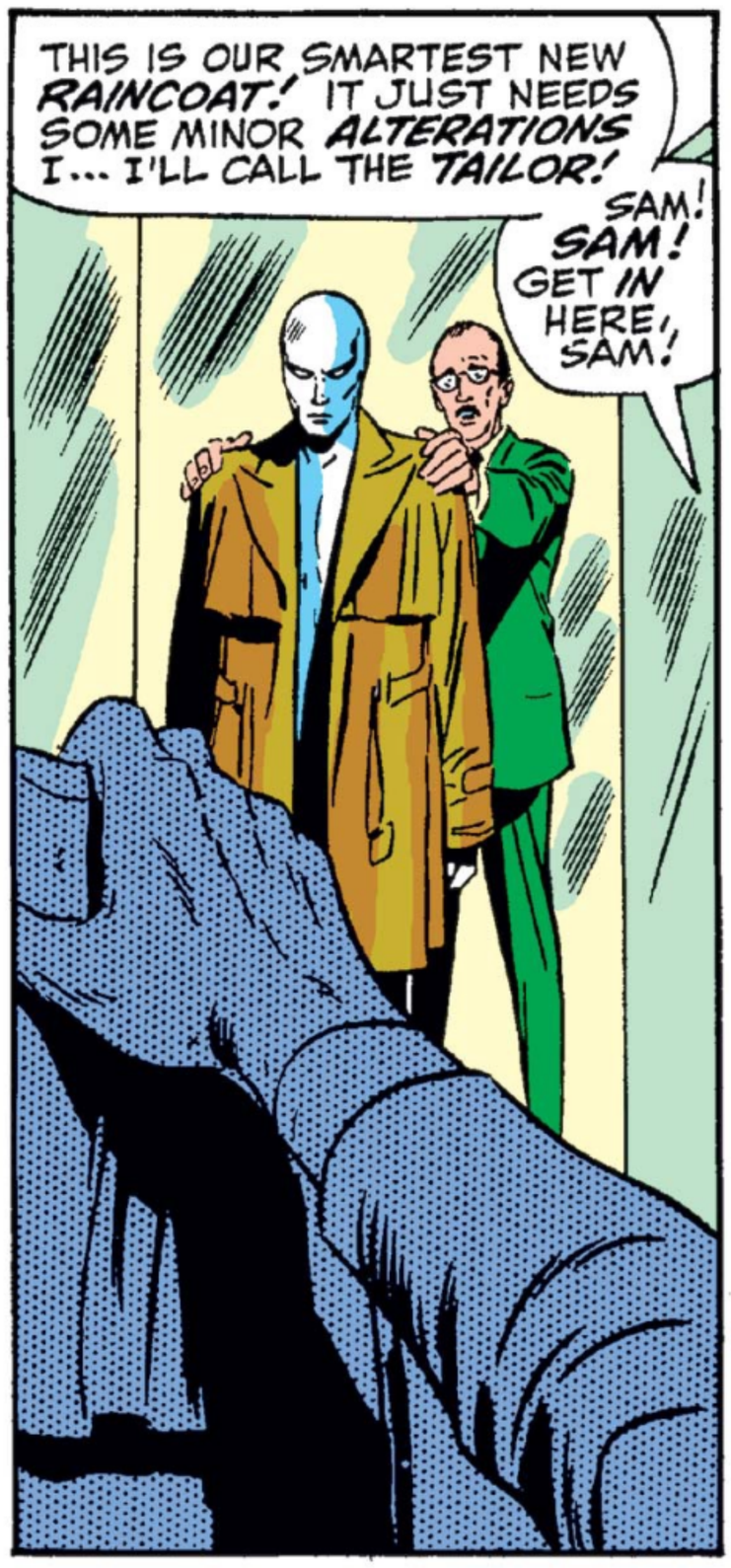

DO I LOOK LIKE SOME KINDA STUDENT TO YOU? ALL I WANT IS... HEY!
WHO'S THAT... BEHIND YA?
WHY, THERE'S NOBODY BE... BE... ULP!!

DO NOT BE ALARMED! I MERELY WISH TO HAVE YOU CLOTHE ME!
WH-- WHO ARE YOU?

N-NO! DON'T BOTHER TELLING ME! I--- I KNOW!
IT'S THE SILVER SURFER!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!


I SAID THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ALARM!
THE DOOR! IT... WON'T MOVE!
HE'S TRAPPED US HERE!


AND NOW... YOU WILL SELECT THE PROPER ATTIRE FOR ME TO WEAR!
OF COURSE! R-RIGHT AWAY!

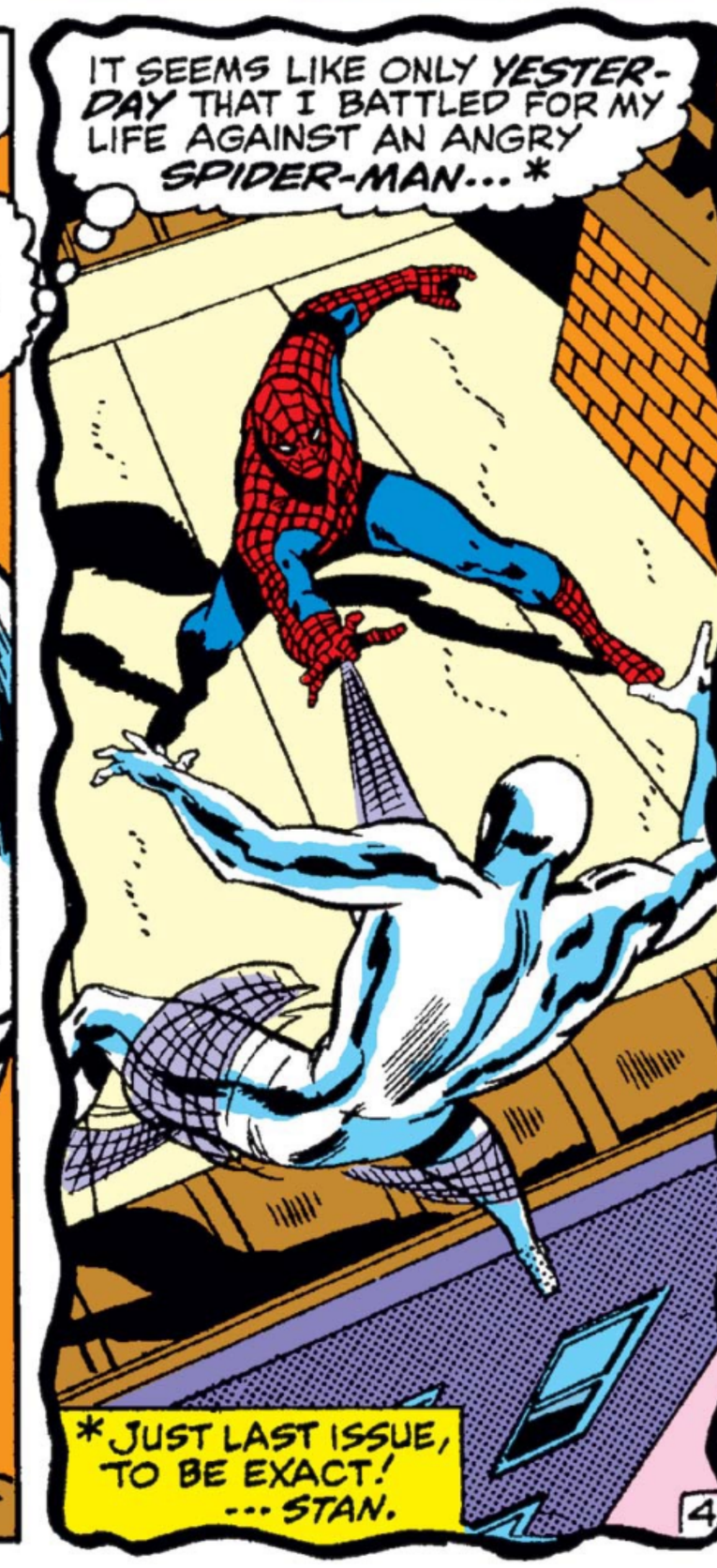

THIS IS OUR SMARTEST NEW RAINCOAT! IT JUST NEEDS SOME MINOR ALTERATIONS I... I'LL CALL THE TAILOR!
SAM! SAM! GET IN HERE, SAM!

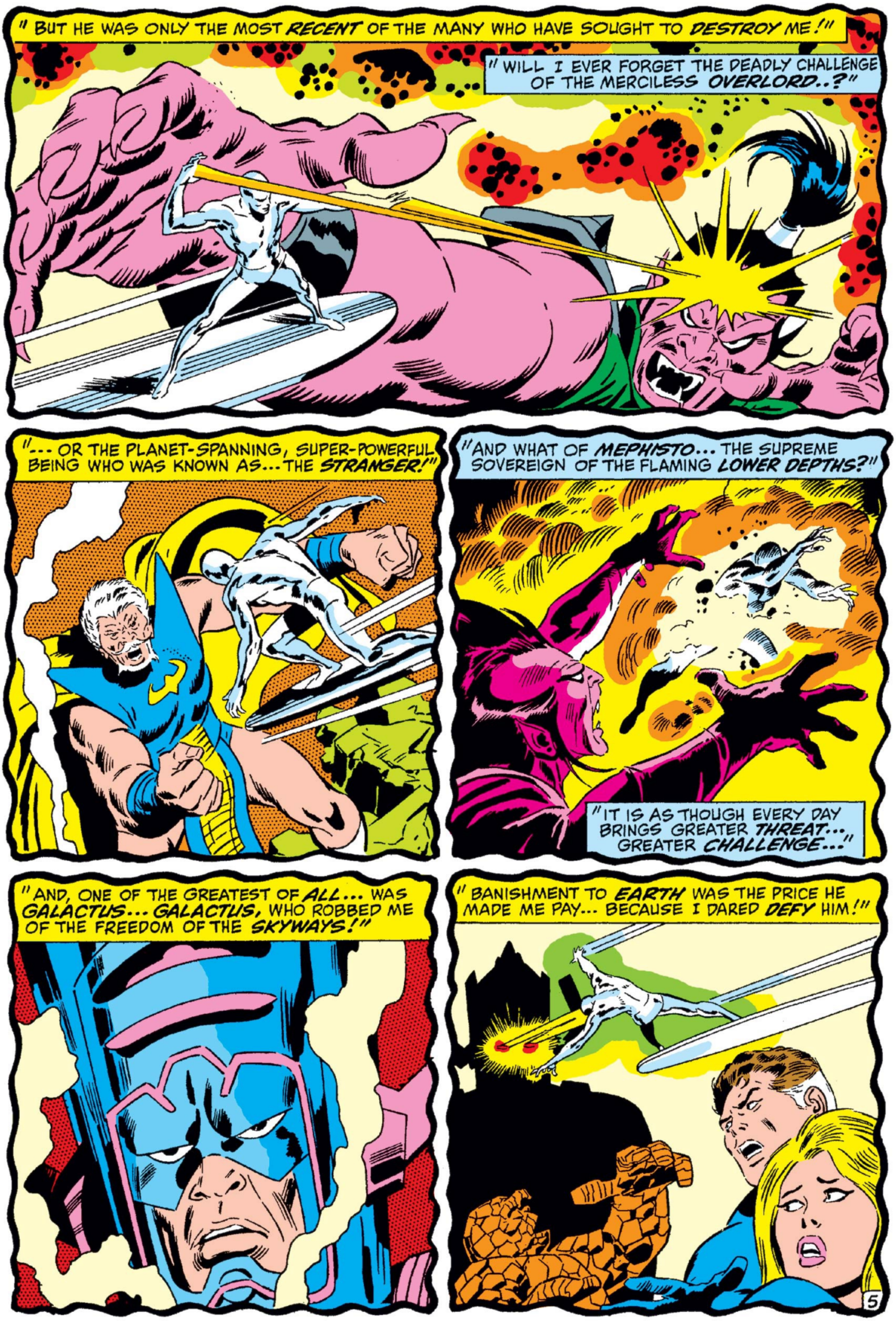
I'M COMIN'... I'M COMIN'! WHAT'S ALL THE HOLLERIN'? I ONLY GOT TWO HANDS!
EVERYBODY'S IN A RUSH! EVERYBODY ALWAYS WANTSA BE FIRST!

SAM... YOU... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WHAT'S TO UNDERSTAND? YOU WANT I SHOULD HAVE A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN? JUST KEEP HOLLERIN'!

A MAN BUYS A COAT... HE EXPECTS THE WORLD TO DROP EVERYTHING AND WAIT ON 'IM!
I DID NOT MEAN TO INCONVENIENCE YOU!
WHY NOT? EVERYONE ELSE DOES! WHO CARES ABOUT A TAILOR?

HE IS SO MIRED IN SELF-PITY, HE HAS NOT EVEN RECOGNIZED ME!
BUT, IF HE THINKS THE WORLD CARES NOTHING FOR HIM... WHAT IF HE WERE IN MY PLACE?


IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY THAT I BATTLED FOR MY LIFE AGAINST AN ANGRY SPIDER-MAN...*
*JUST LAST ISSUE, TO BE EXACT! ... STAN.


" BUT HE WAS ONLY THE MOST RECENT OF THE MANY WHO HAVE SOUGHT TO DESTROY ME!"
" WILL I EVER FORGET THE DEADLY CHALLENGE OF THE MERCILESS OVERLORD..?"
"... OR THE PLANET-SPANNING, SUPER-POWERFUL BEING WHO WAS KNOWN AS... THE STRANGER!"
"AND WHAT OF MEPHISTO... THE SUPREME SOVEREIGN OF THE FLAMING LOWER DEPTHS?"
"IT IS AS THOUGH EVERY DAY BRINGS GREATER THREAT... GREATER CHALLENGE..."
" AND, ONE OF THE GREATEST OF ALL... WAS GALACTUS... GALACTUS, WHO ROBBED ME OF THE FREEDOM OF THE SKYWAYS!"
" BANISHMENT TO EARTH WAS THE PRICE HE MADE ME PAY... BECAUSE I DARED DEFY HIM!"
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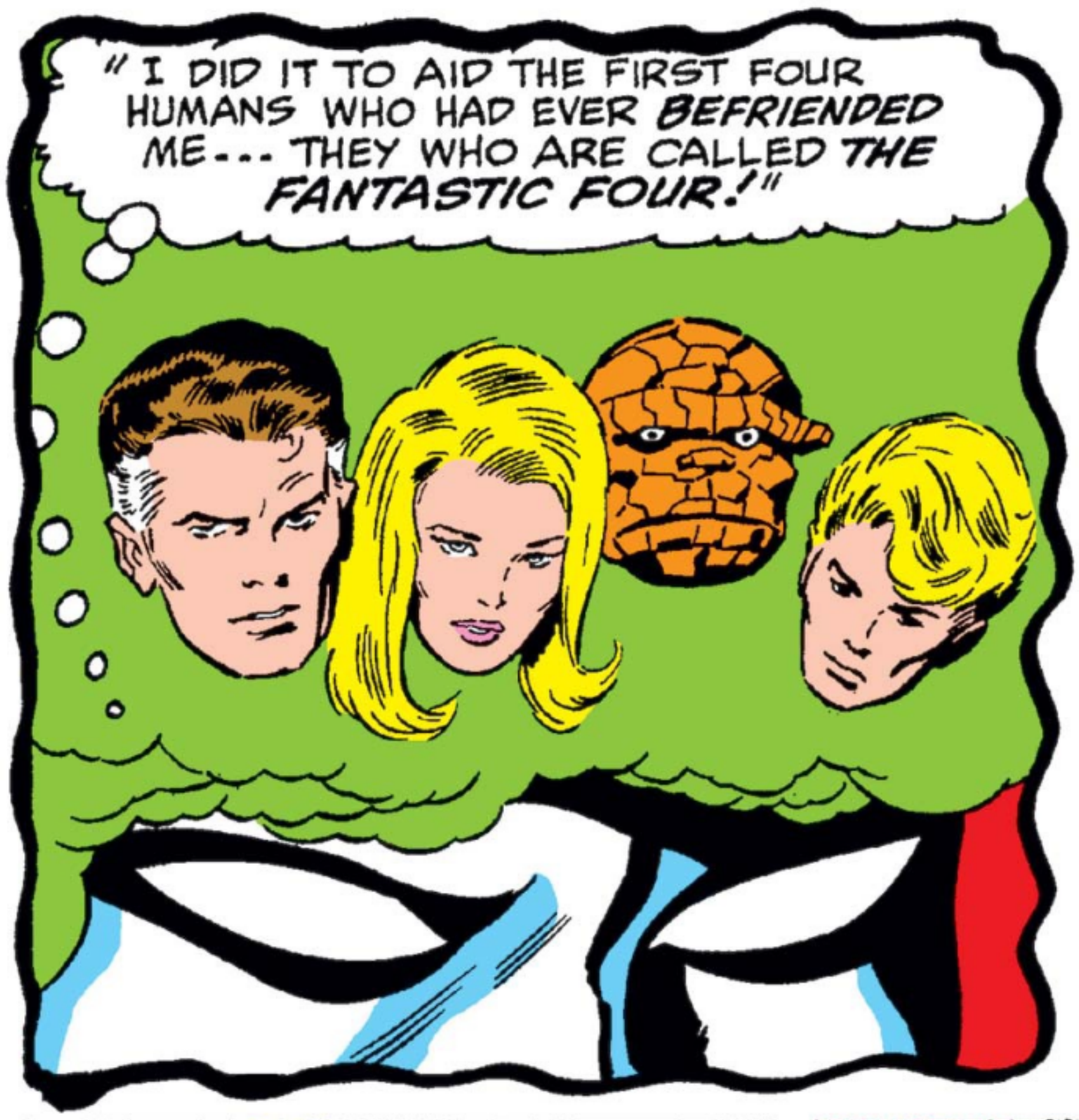
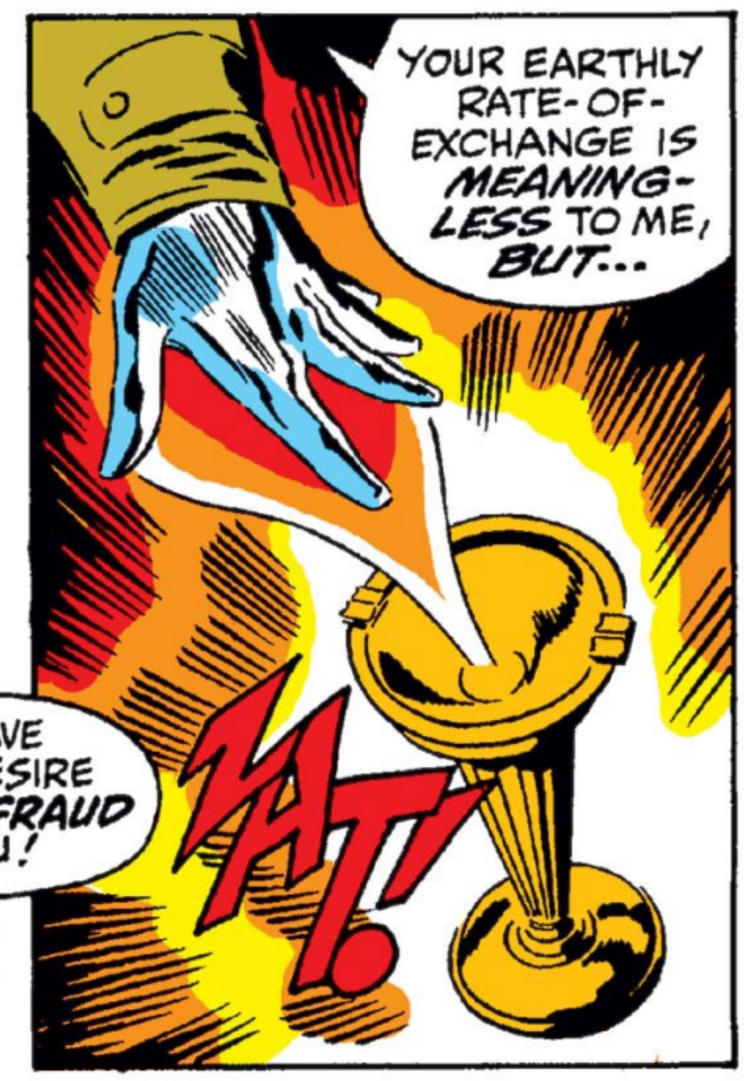

"I DID IT TO AID THE FIRST FOUR HUMANS WHO HAD EVER BEFRIENDED ME--- THEY WHO ARE CALLED THE FANTASTIC FOUR!"

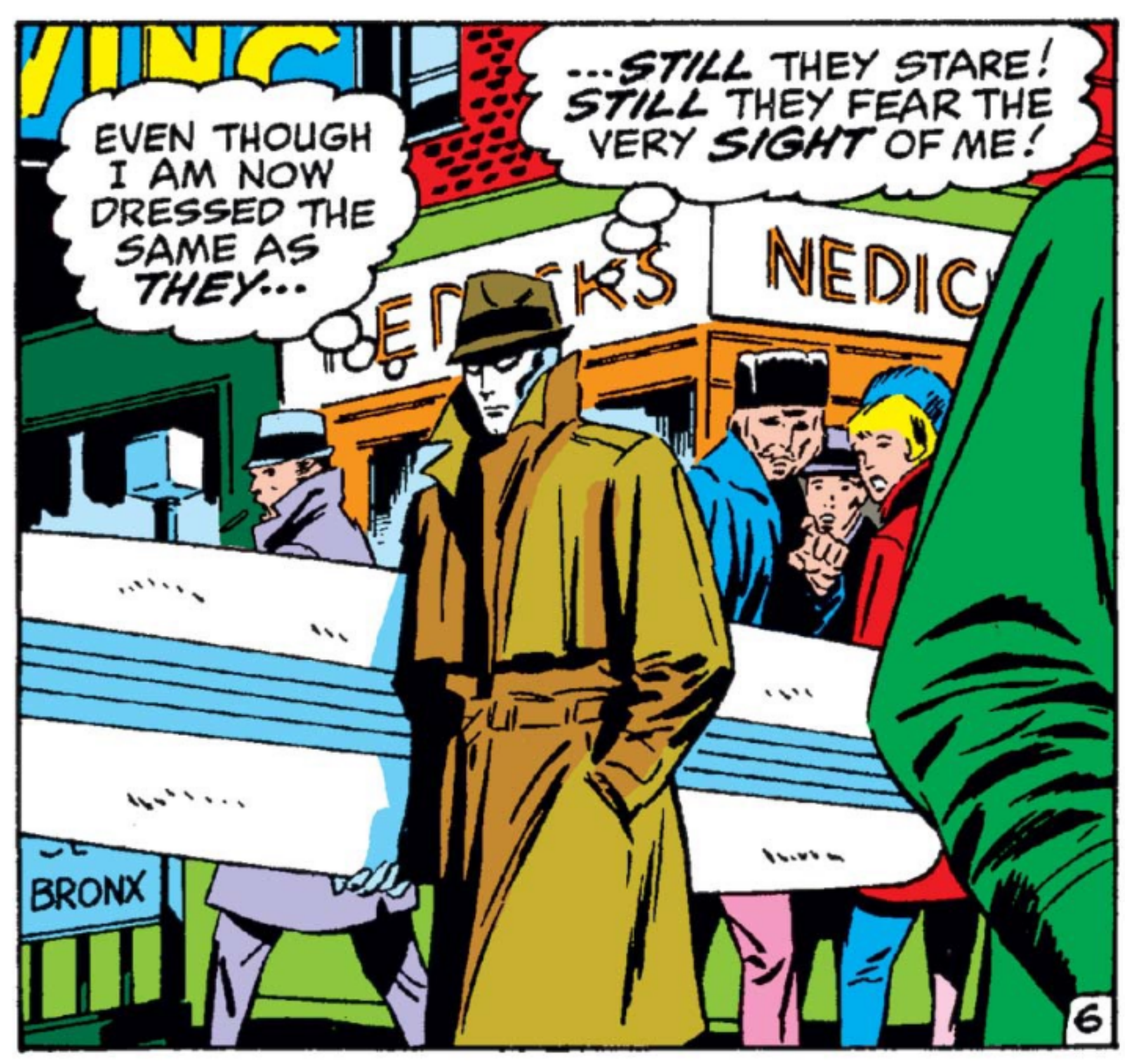
THE FANTASTIC FOUR! WHY HAVE I NOT THOUGHT OF THEM SOONER?
PERHAPS THEY MAY FIND A WAY TO END MY EXILE!
EH--- YOU'RE A REGULAR FASHION PLATE NOW!

THOSE CLOTHES YOU'RE WEARING--- THEY'RE MY MOST EXPENSIVE GARMENTS!
B-BUT OF COURSE I WOULDN'T DREAM OF-- OF ASKING YOU TO P-PAY FOR THEM --- IF YOU D-DON'T WANT TO!

I HAVE NO DESIRE TO DEFRAUD YOU!


YOUR EARTHLY RATE-OF-EXCHANGE IS MEANING-LESS TO ME, BUT...
HA!

SURELY THAT ASH TRAY, WHICH I HAVE COSMICALLY TRANSMUTED INTO SOLID GOLD--- WILL PAY YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!


EVEN THOUGH I AM NOW DRESSED THE SAME AS THEY...
...STILL THEY STARE! STILL THEY FEAR THE VERY SIGHT OF ME!
NEDIC
BRONX

BUT, NO LONGER SHALL I DWELL UPON IT!
TAXI STAND
AT LAST I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO! AT LAST THERE ARE FRIENDS TO WHOM I MAY TURN!
CROSS COUNTRY VAN

LET ME THEN FLY... TO THE FANTASTIC FOUR!

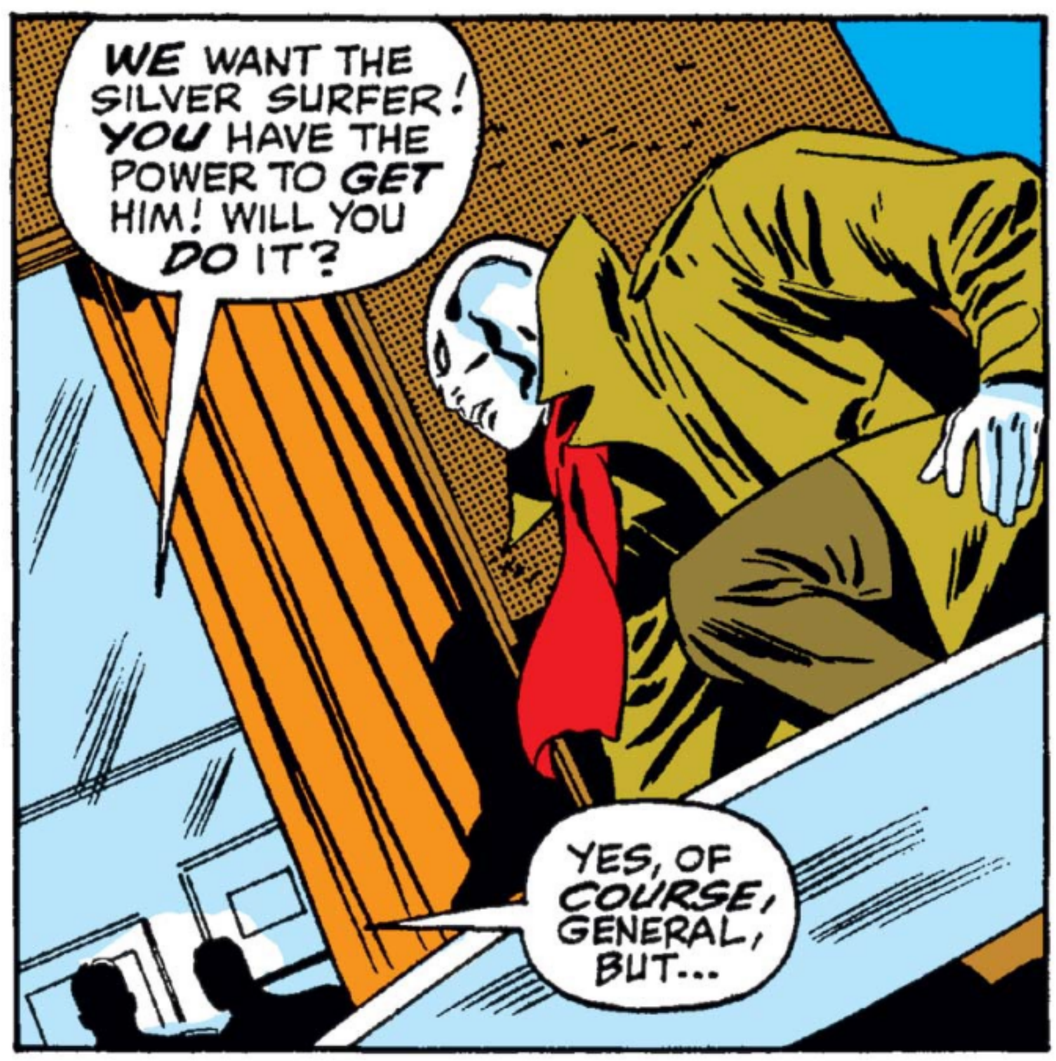
IT WILL TAKE MERE MINUTES TO REACH THEM!

FOR, EVEN NOW... THEIR WORLD-FAMED BAXTER BUILDING LOOMS JUST AHEAD!

AND THERE-- WITHIN A PRIVATE PENTHOUSE SUITE...
I THINK WE SHOULD OFFER OUR DISTINGUISHED VISITOR A LIGHT, JOHNNY!
I'LL DO IT, REED! WE'LL SAVE ON LIGHTER FLUID THIS WAY!

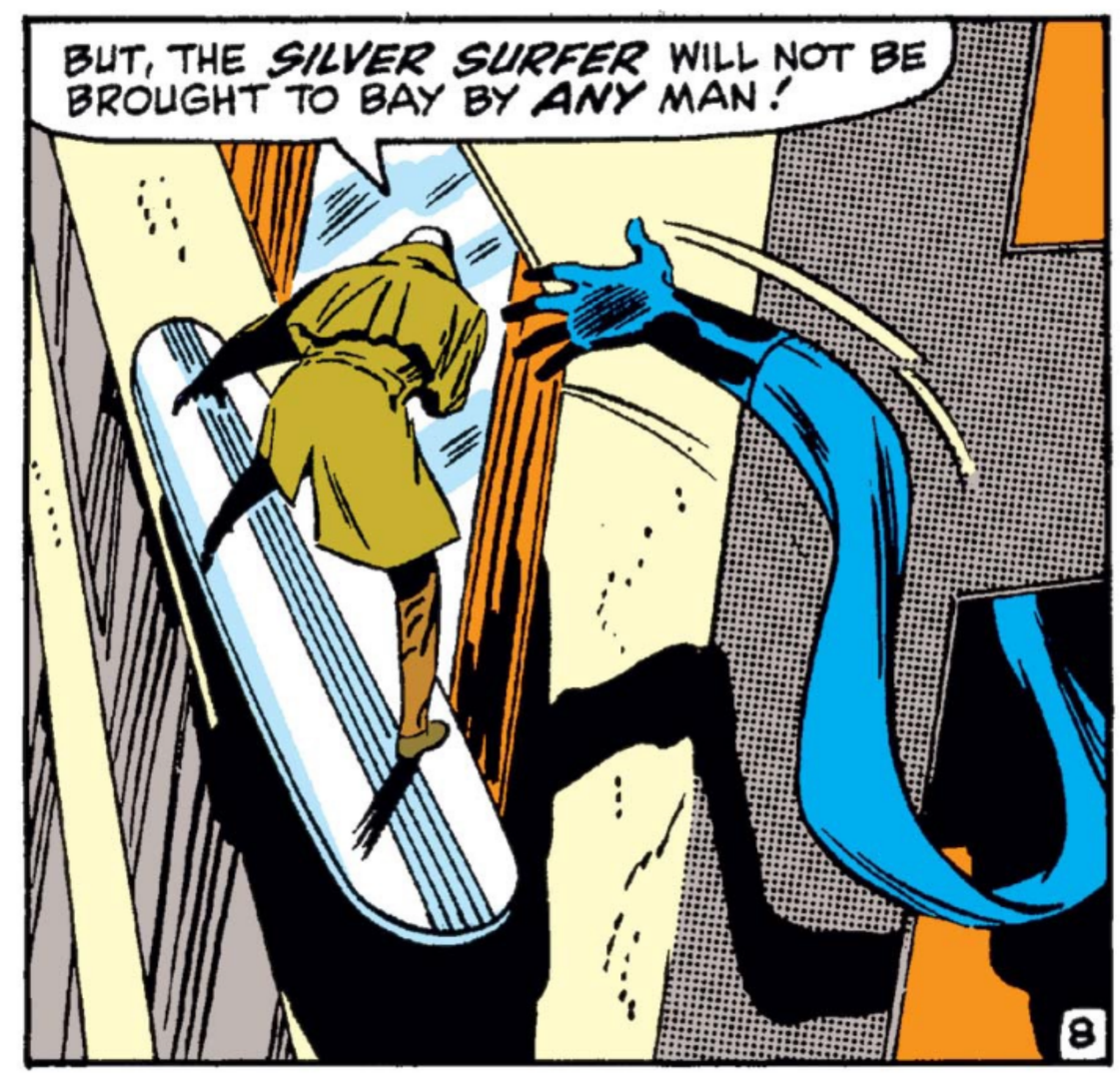
THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN! AND NOW, TO BUSINESS...
I'M HERE TO ASK YOUR HELP IN A MATTER OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE! WE WANT YOU TO... GET THE SILVER SURFER!

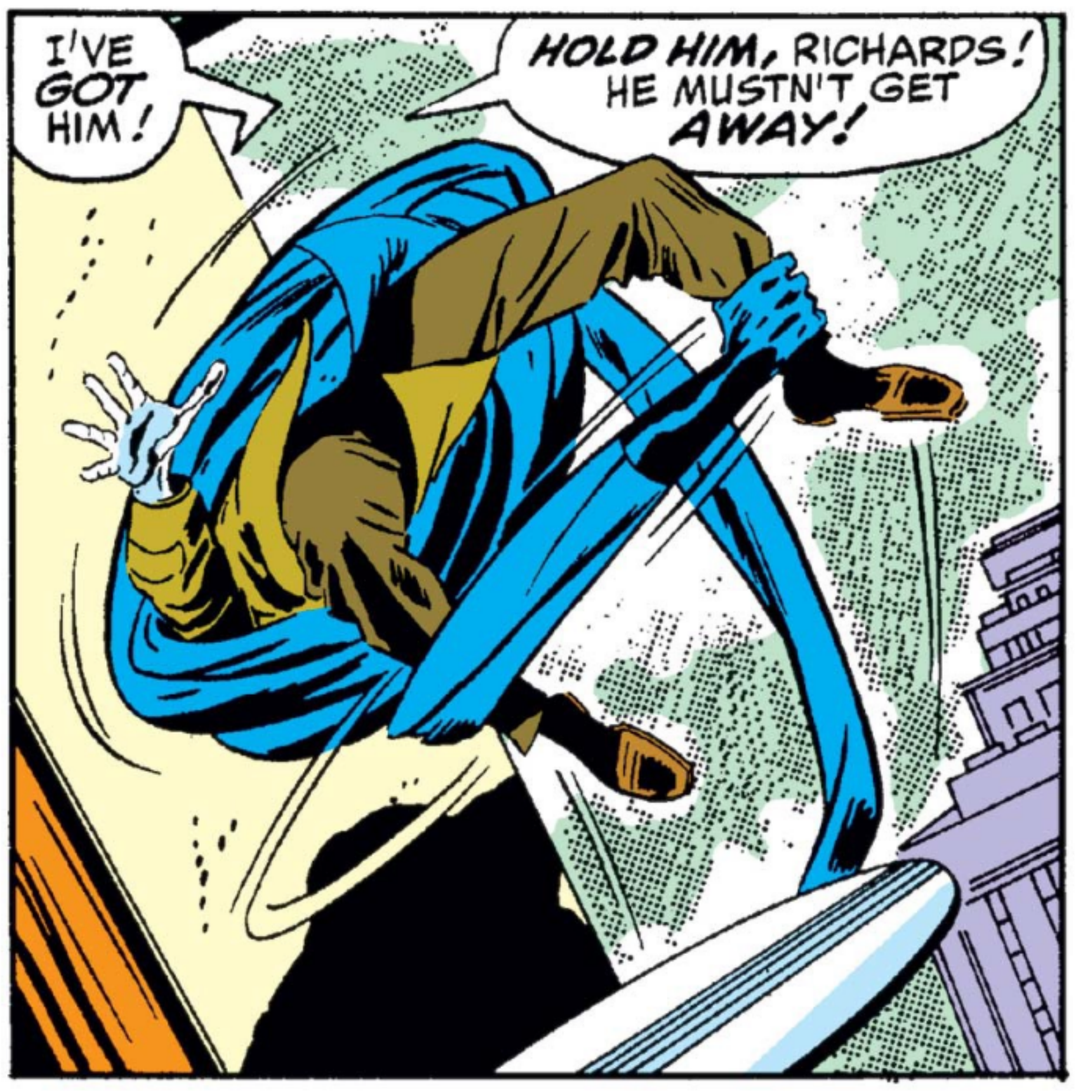
GET THE SURFER? BUT... WHY, GENERAL? WHAT'S HE DONE?
PERHAPS YOU'D BETTER EXPLAIN A BIT MORE, SIR!
THERE'S NOT MUCH MORE TO SAY!


WE WANT THE SILVER SURFER! YOU HAVE THE POWER TO GET HIM! WILL YOU DO IT?
YES, OF COURSE, GENERAL, BUT...

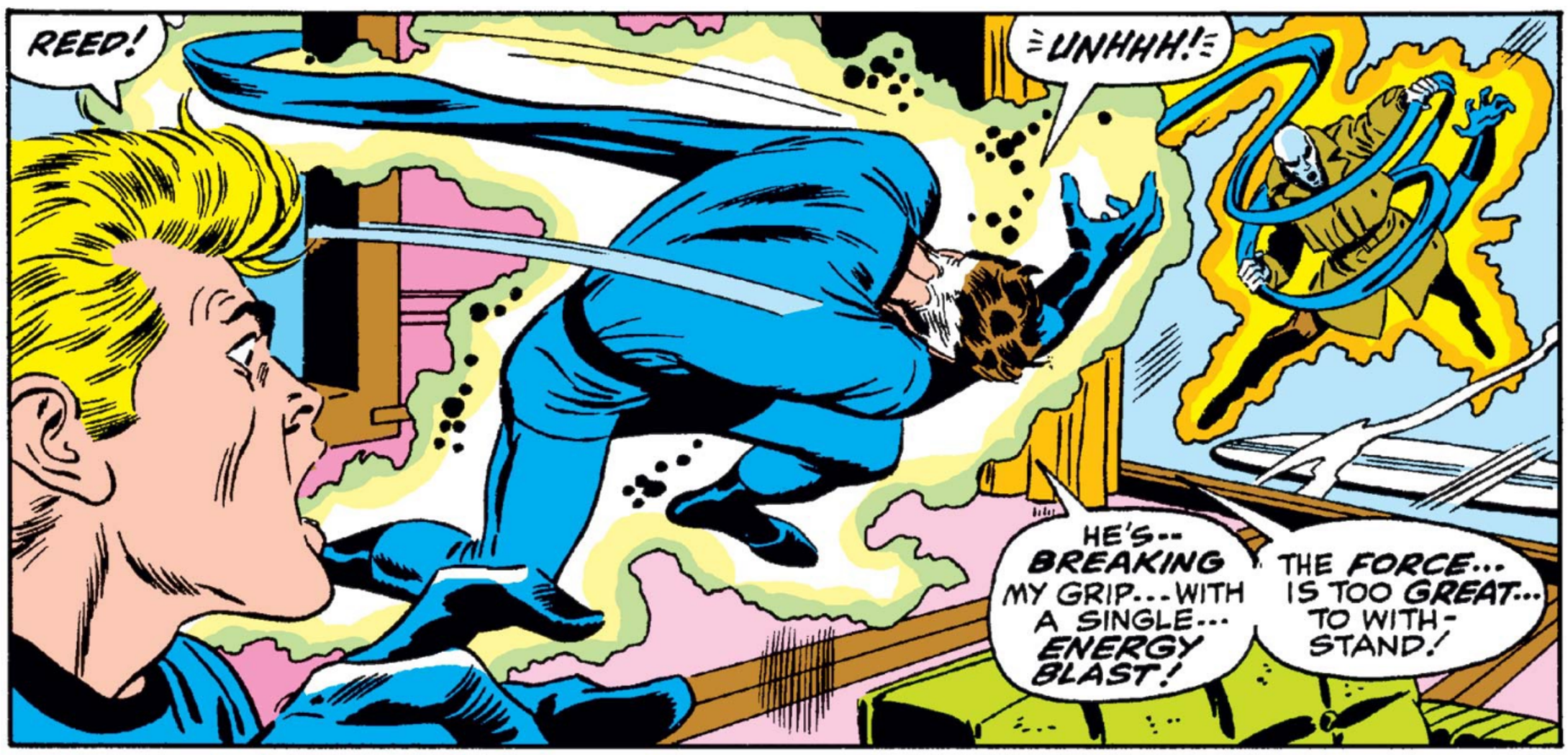
NO BUTS! THIS IS TOP PRIORITY! MY ORDERS ARE...
WHAT IS IT? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING THAT WAY?
THERE... AT THE WINDOW...
IT'S HIM!

SO! EVEN THOSE I THOUGHT MY FRIENDS HAVE TURNED AGAINST ME!

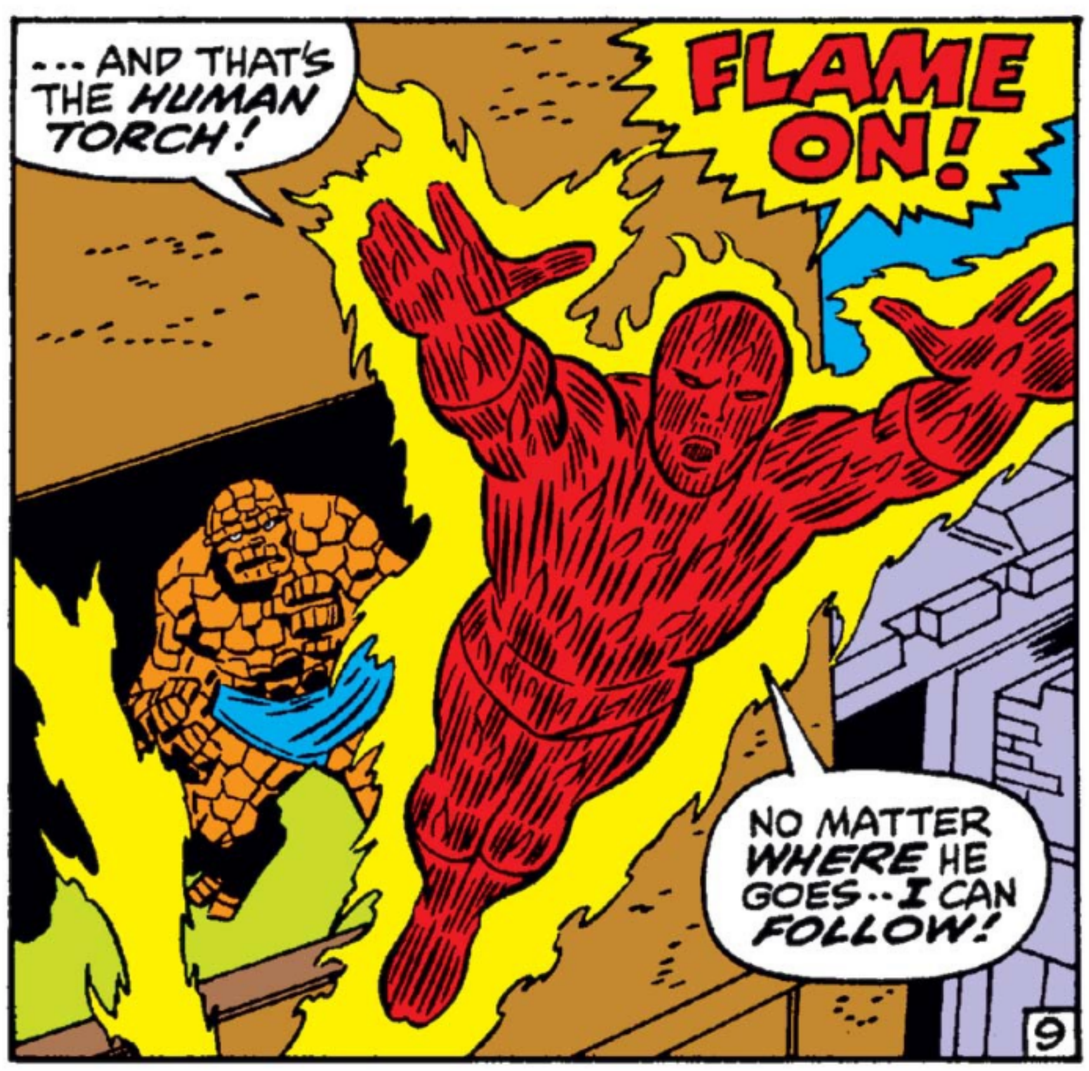

BUT, THE SILVER SURFER WILL NOT BE BROUGHT TO BAY BY ANY MAN!


I'VE GOT HIM!
HOLD HIM, RICHARDS! HE MUSTN'T GET AWAY!

HOLD ME?!!
HOLD ONE WHO POSSESSES THE POWER COSMIC?!!
NEVER!

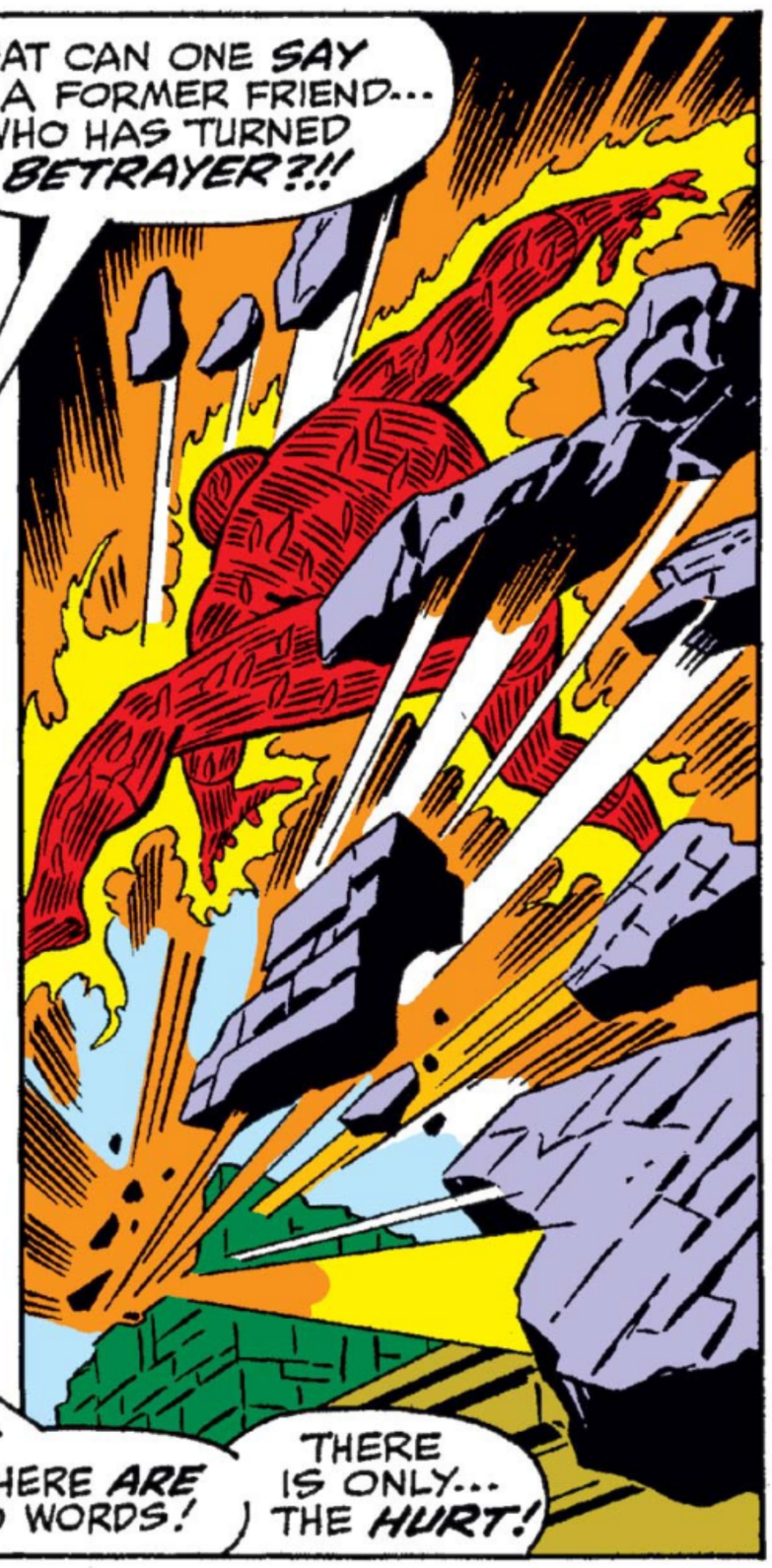

REED!
UNHHH!
HE'S-- BREAKING MY GRIP--- WITH A SINGLE--- ENERGY BLAST!
THE FORCE--- IS TOO GREAT--- TO WITH-STAND!

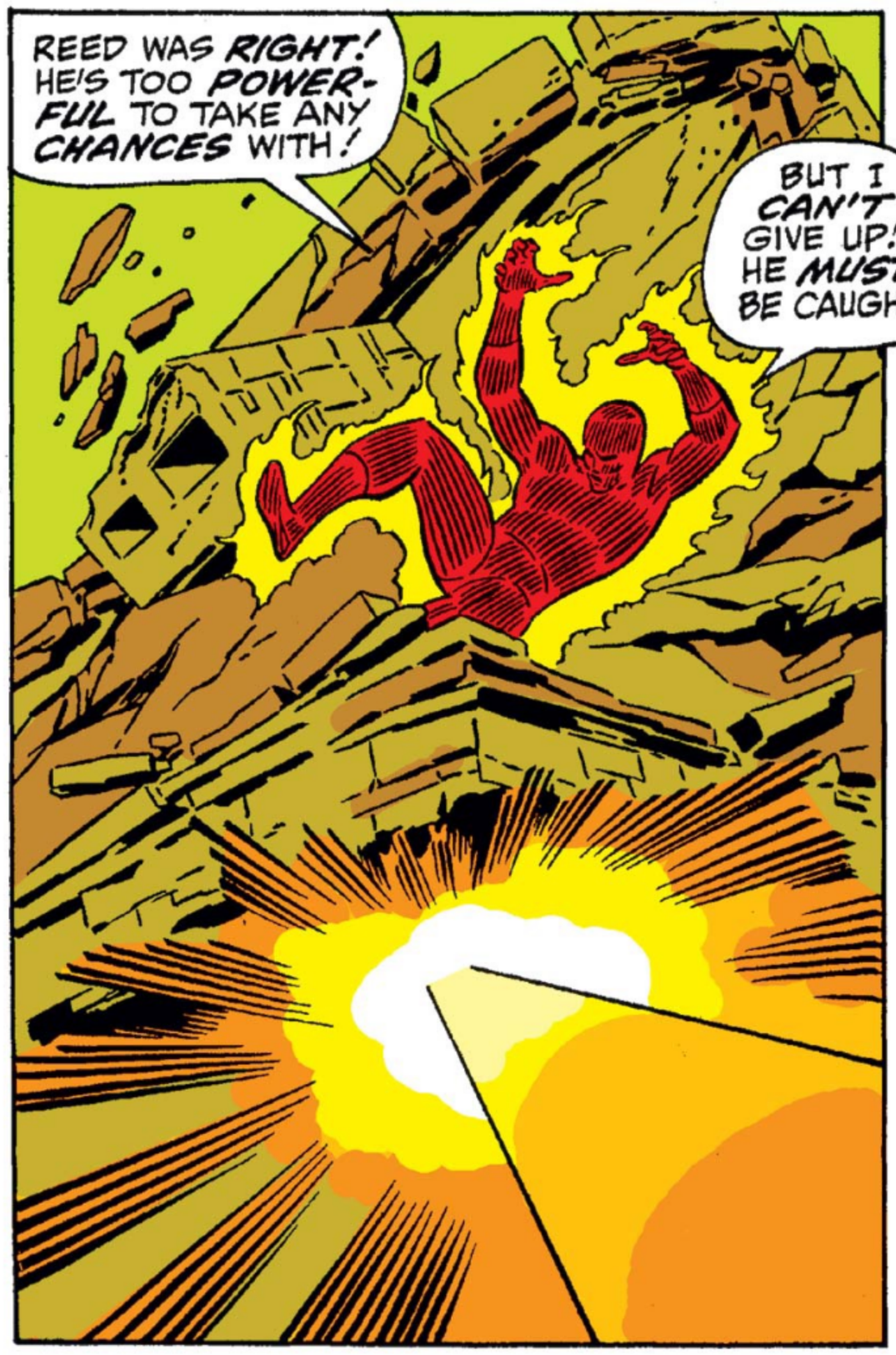
SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER--- THAN TO LUNGE OUT--- SO QUICKLY--- SO RECKLESSLY!
HE'S TOO POWERFUL! WE--- HAVE TO THINK--- HAVE TO PLAN!
NUTS! WHILE YOU'RE THINKIN'--- HE'S TAKIN' A POWDER!
ONLY ONE THING TO DO! ONLY ONE OF US CAN GET HIM--!

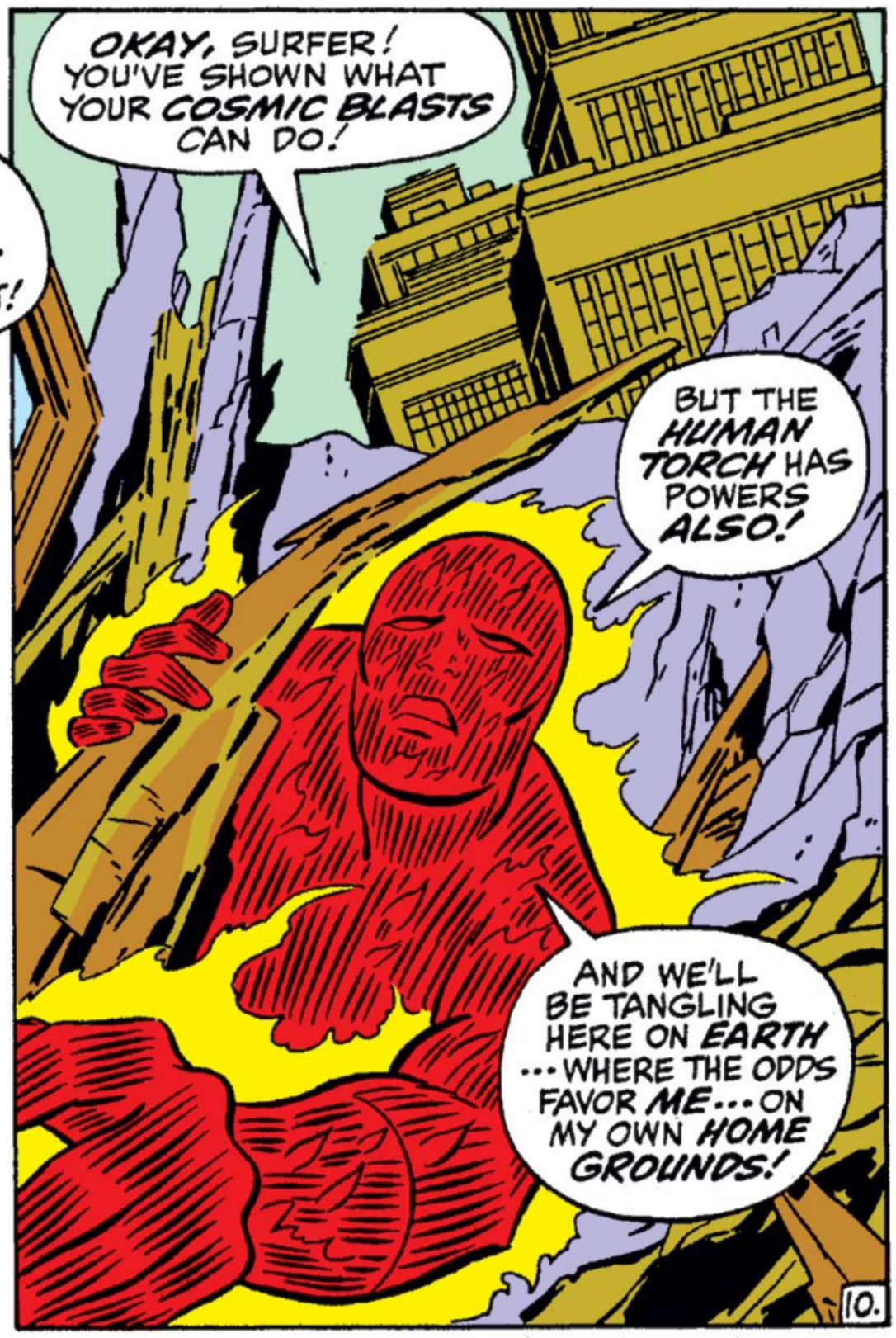

--- AND THAT'S THE HUMAN TORCH!
FLAME ON!
NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES--I CAN FOLLOW!

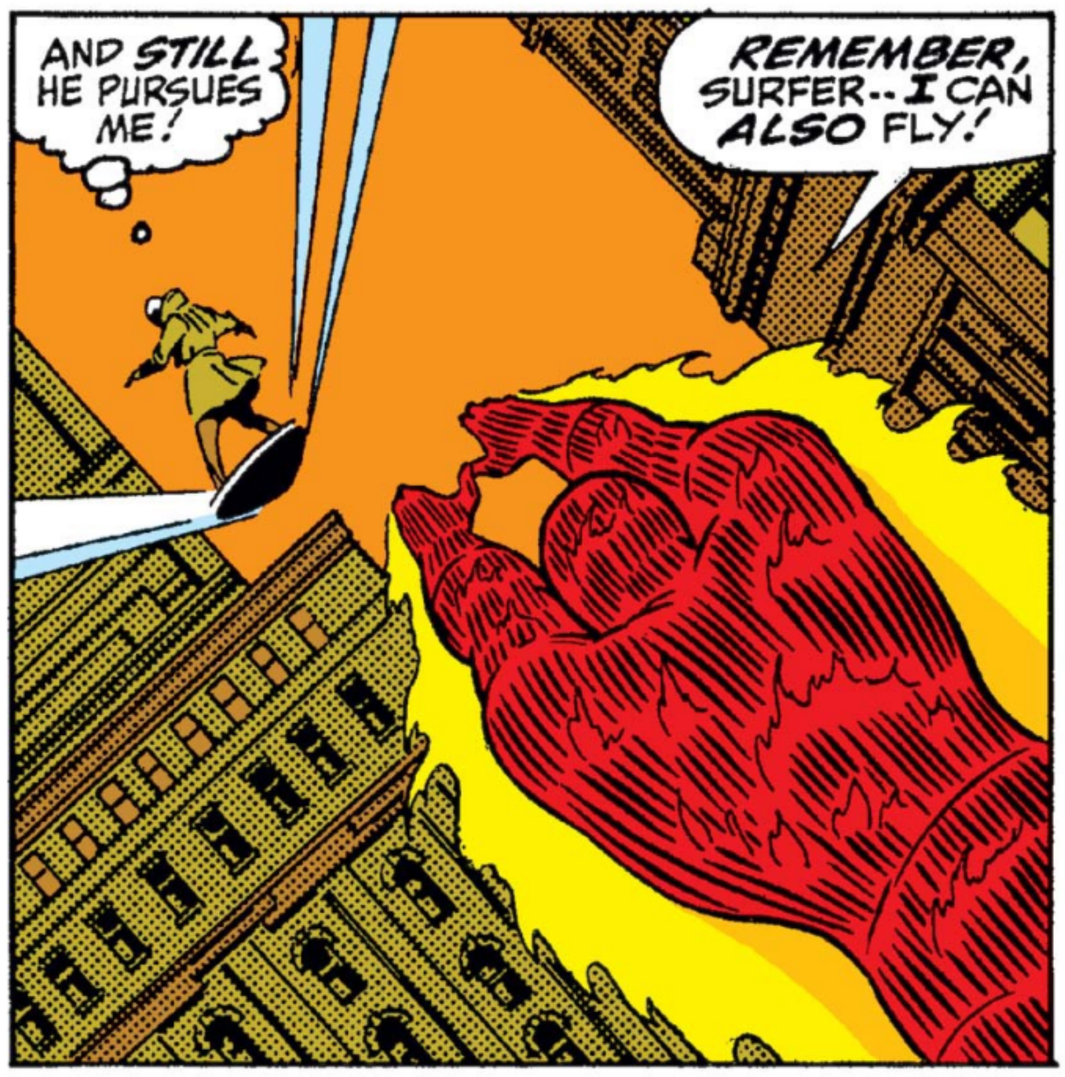
GO BACK, JOHNNY STORM! I HAVE NO WISH TO INJURE YOU!
SURFER... WAIT! LET'S TALK IT OVER!

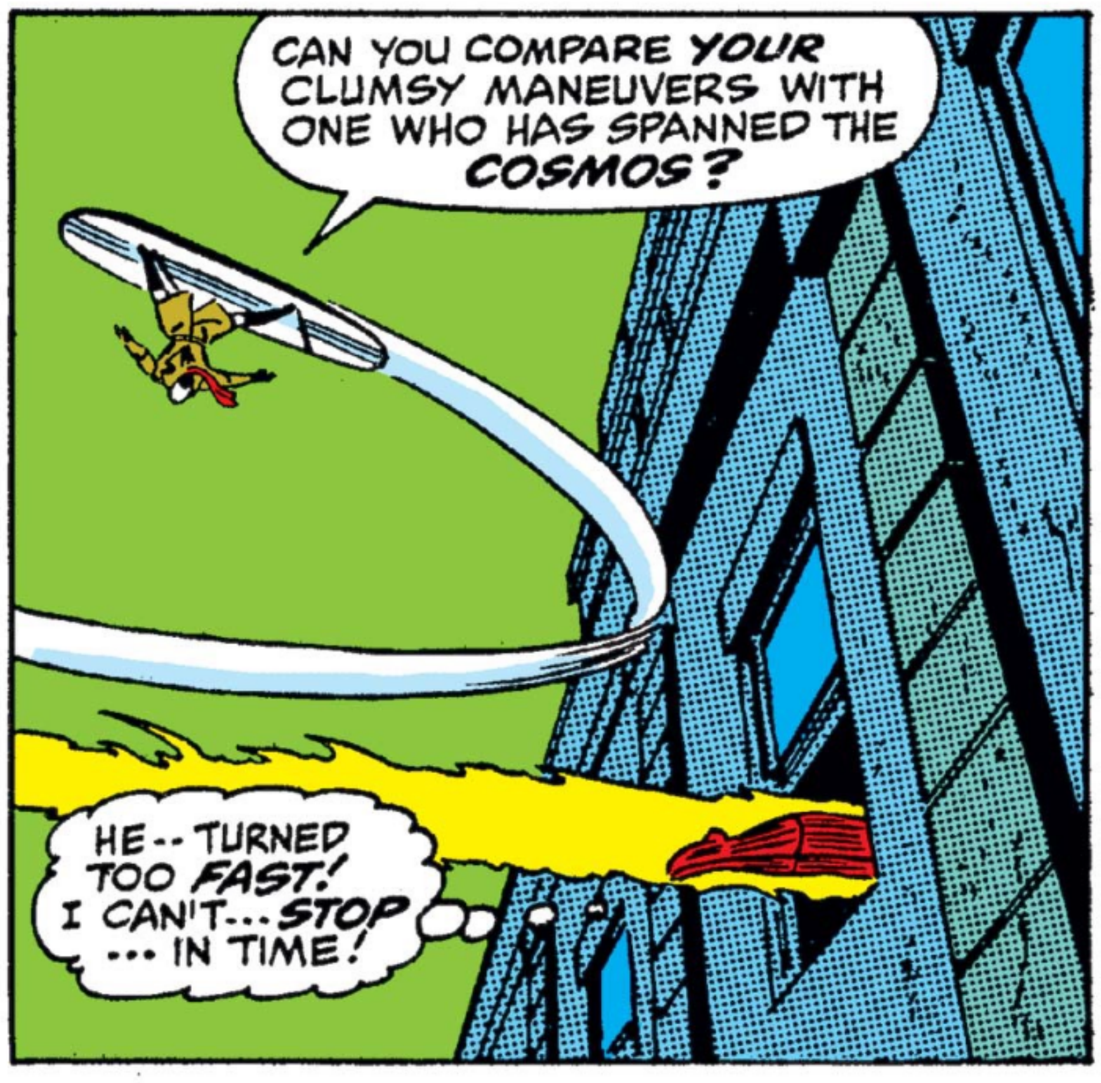
TALK?? WHAT CAN ONE SAY... TO A FIERY FOE?
THERE ARE NO WORDS!

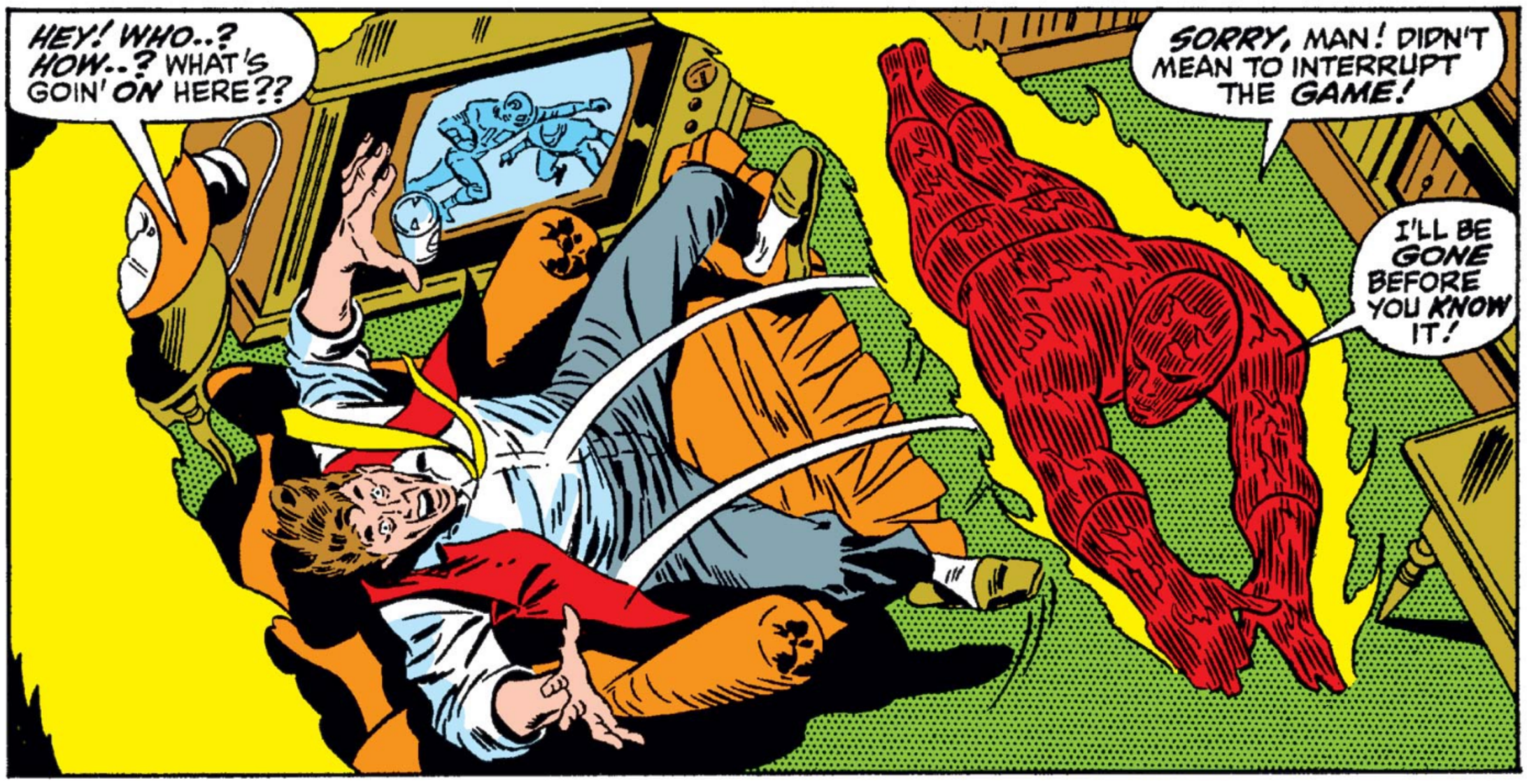

WHAT CAN ONE SAY TO A FORMER FRIEND... WHO HAS TURNED BETRAYER?!!
THERE IS ONLY... THE HURT!

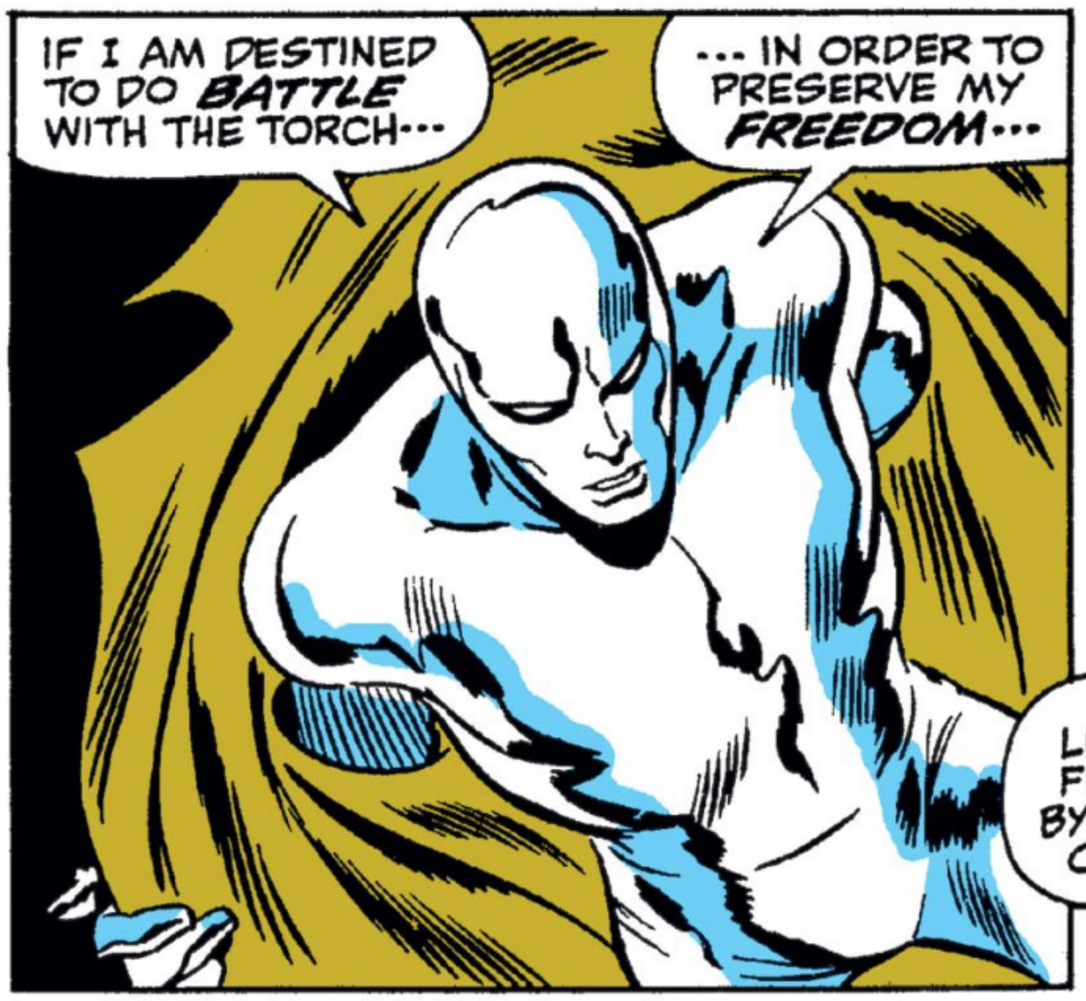

REED WAS RIGHT! HE'S TOO POWERFUL TO TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH!
BUT I CAN'T GIVE UP! HE MUST BE CAUGHT!


OKAY, SURFER! YOU'VE SHOWN WHAT YOUR COSMIC BLASTS CAN DO!
BUT THE HUMAN TORCH HAS POWERS ALSO!
AND WE'LL BE TANGLING HERE ON EARTH ...WHERE THE ODDS FAVOR ME...ON MY OWN HOME GROUNDS!

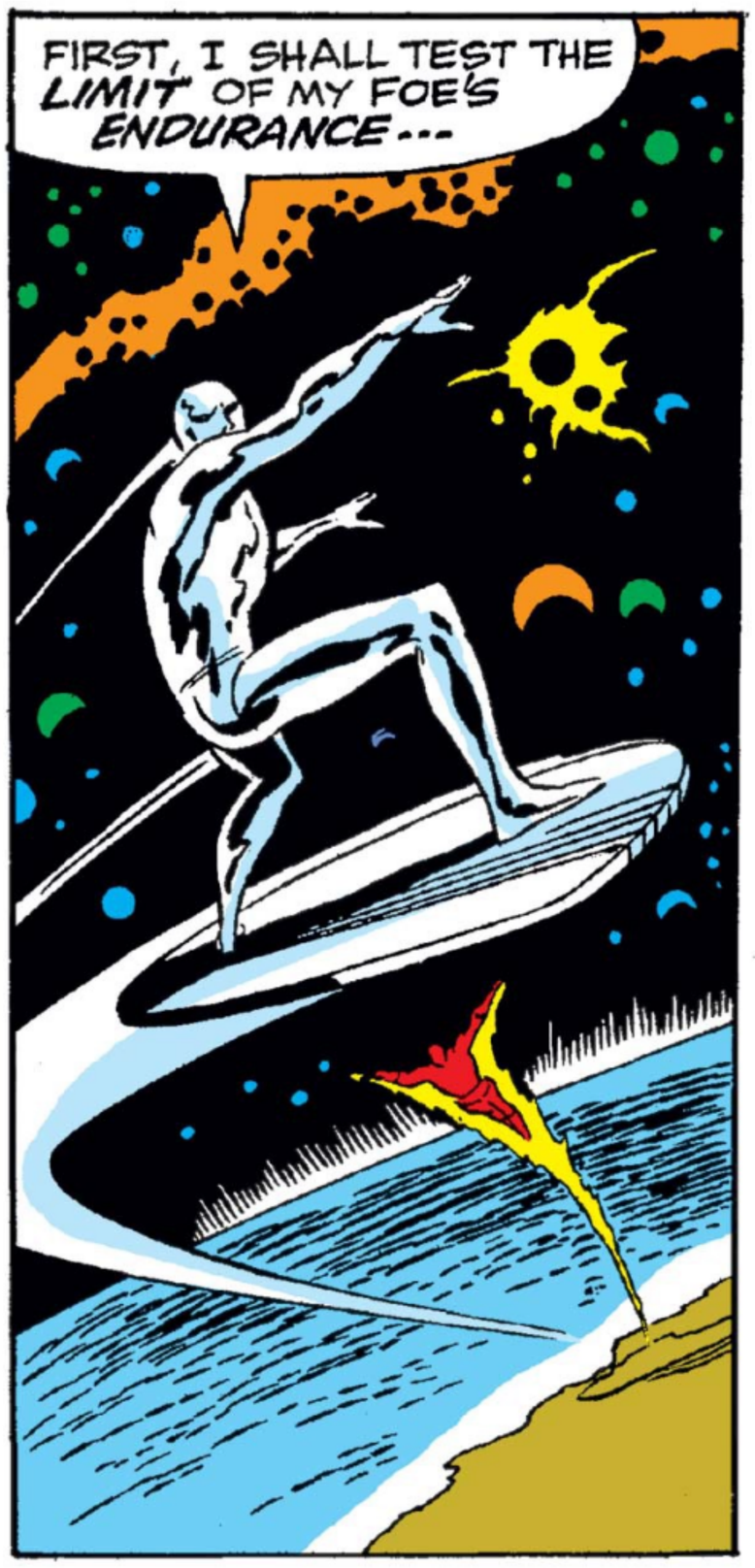

AND STILL HE PURSUES ME!
REMEMBER, SURFER-- I CAN ALSO FLY!


CAN YOU COMPARE YOUR CLUMSY MANEUVERS WITH ONE WHO HAS SPANNED THE COSMOS?
HE-- TURNED TOO FAST! I CAN'T--- STOP --- IN TIME!

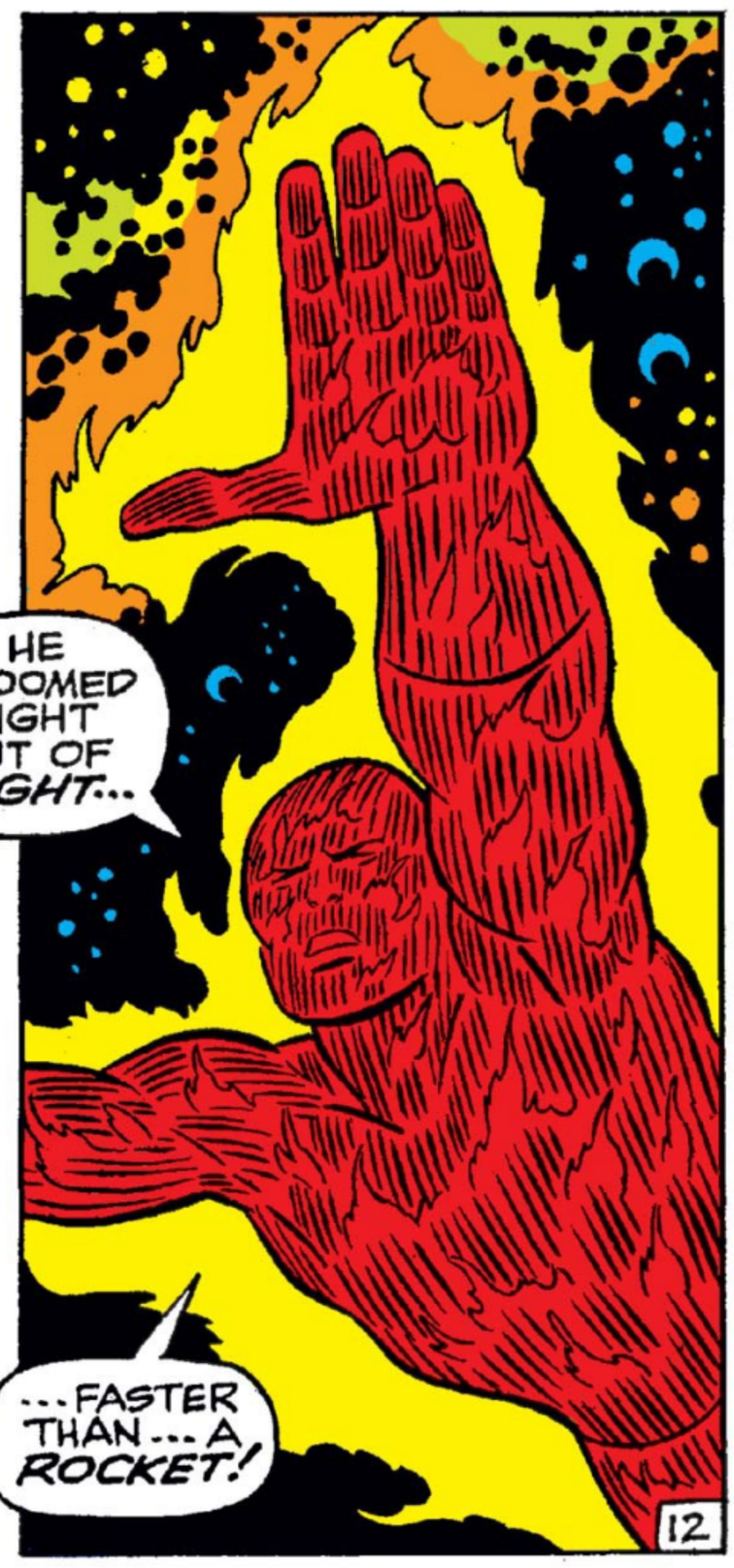

HEY! WHO..? HOW..? WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE??
SORRY, MAN! DIDN'T MEAN TO INTERRUPT THE GAME!
I'LL BE GONE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

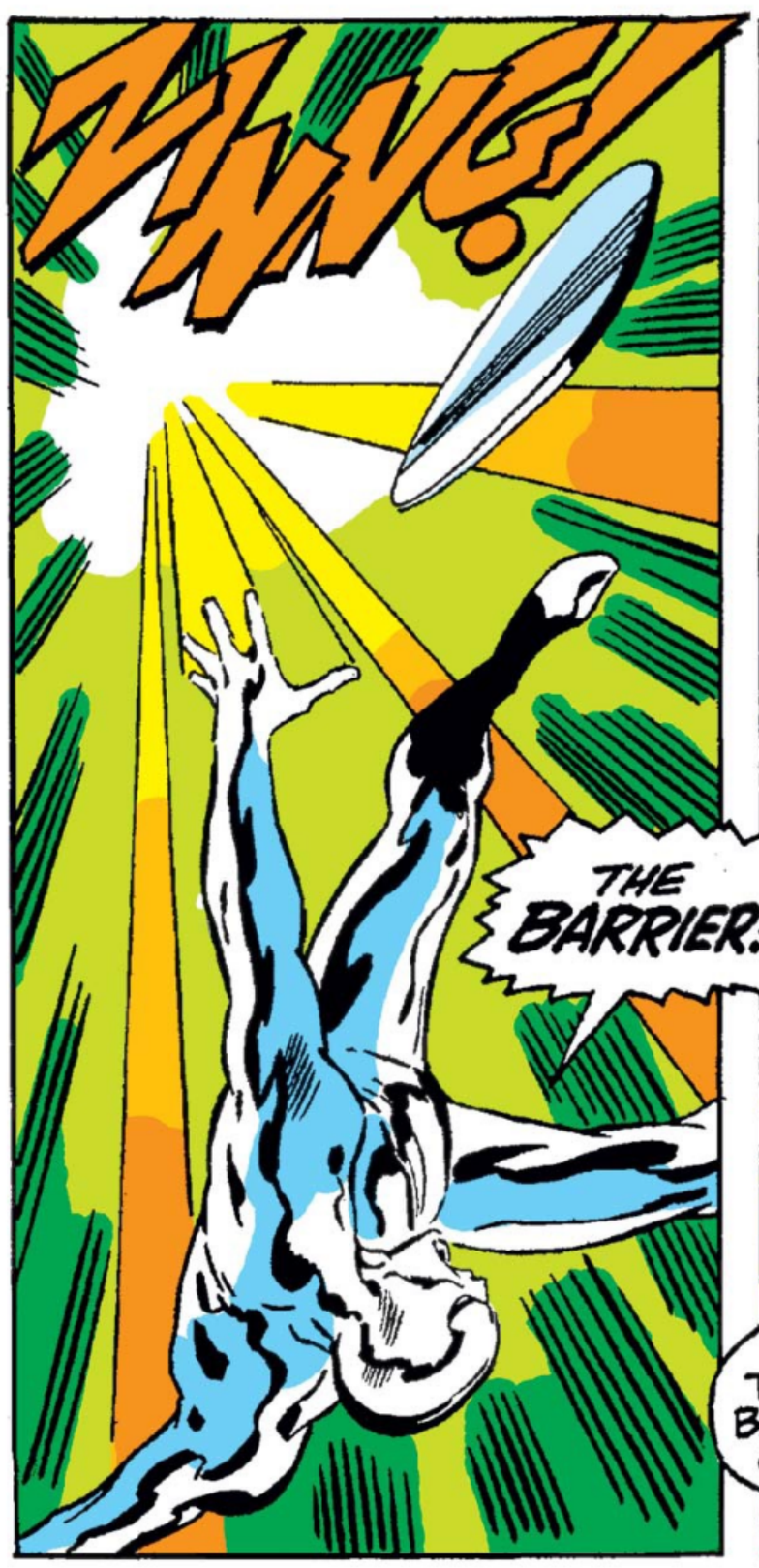

IF I AM DESTINED TO DO BATTLE WITH THE TORCH---
--- IN ORDER TO PRESERVE MY FREEDOM---

LET ME TRIUMPH.. OR FALL.. AS THE SILVER SURFER!
THEN LET ME BE FETTERED BY NO HUMAN CLOTHES!

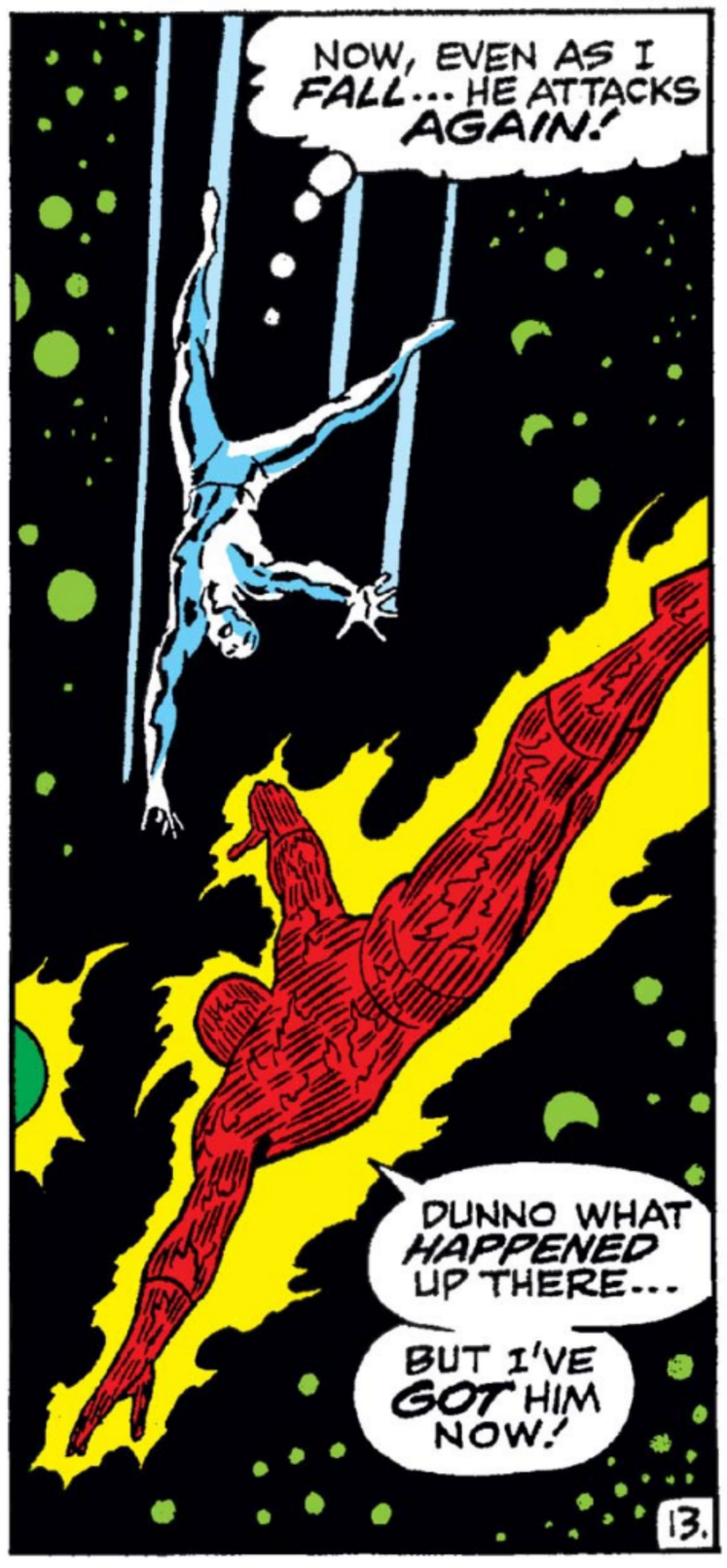

FIRST, I SHALL TEST THE LIMIT OF MY FOE'S ENDURANCE...

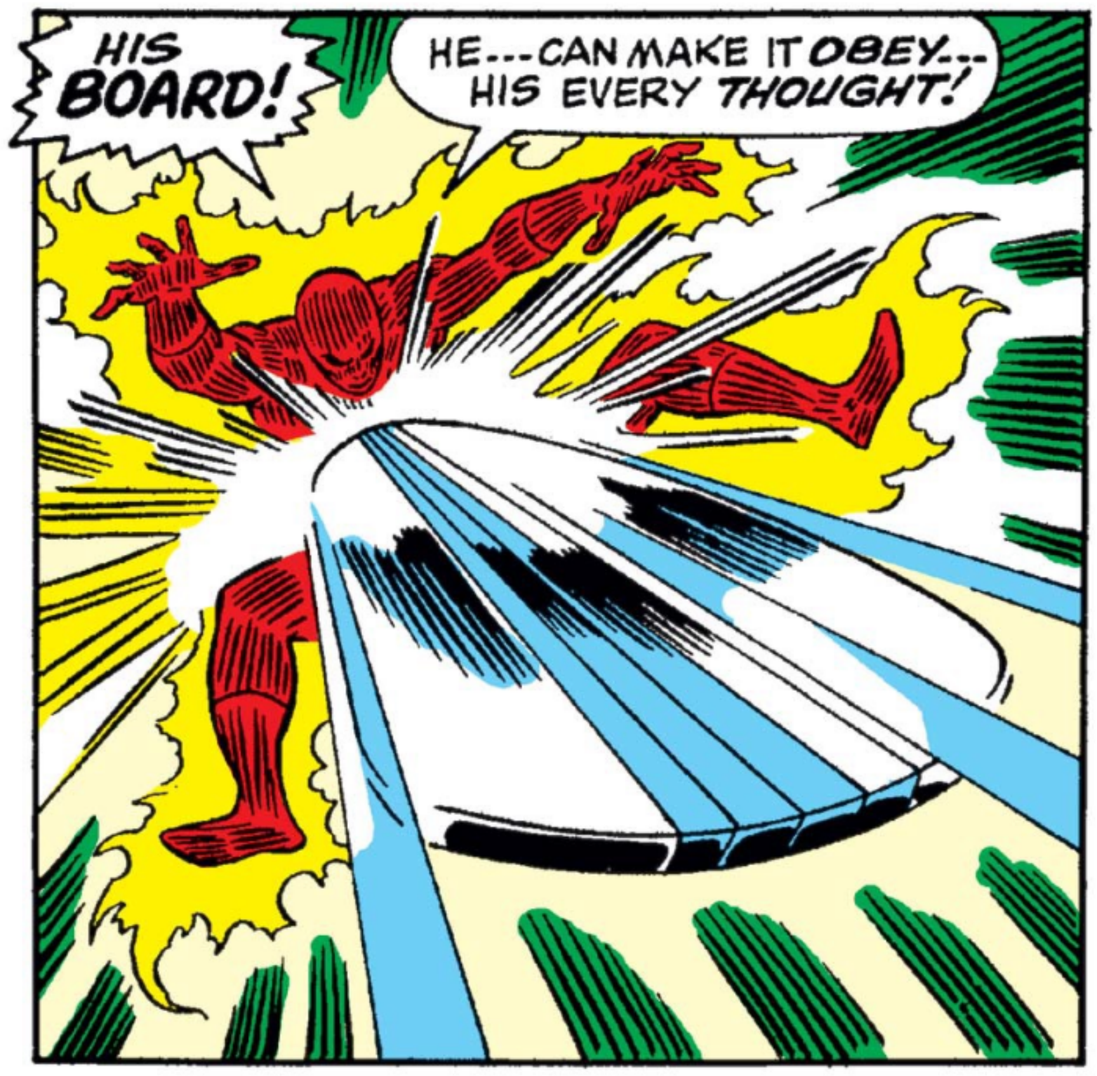
...BY FLYING WHERE HE CANNOT FOLLOW!

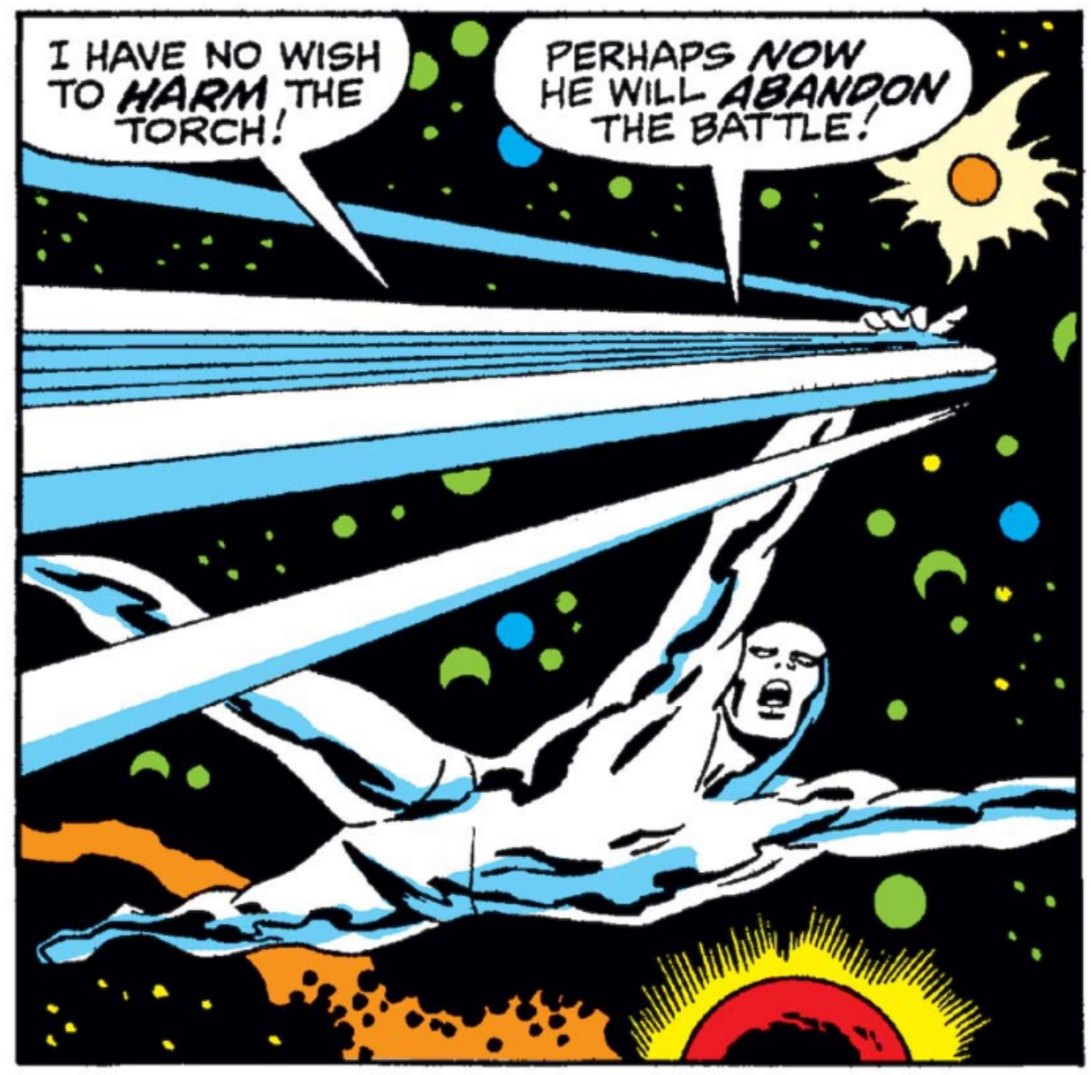

HE ZOOMED RIGHT OUT OF SIGHT...
...FASTER THAN... A ROCKET!
12


PING!
THE BARRIER!

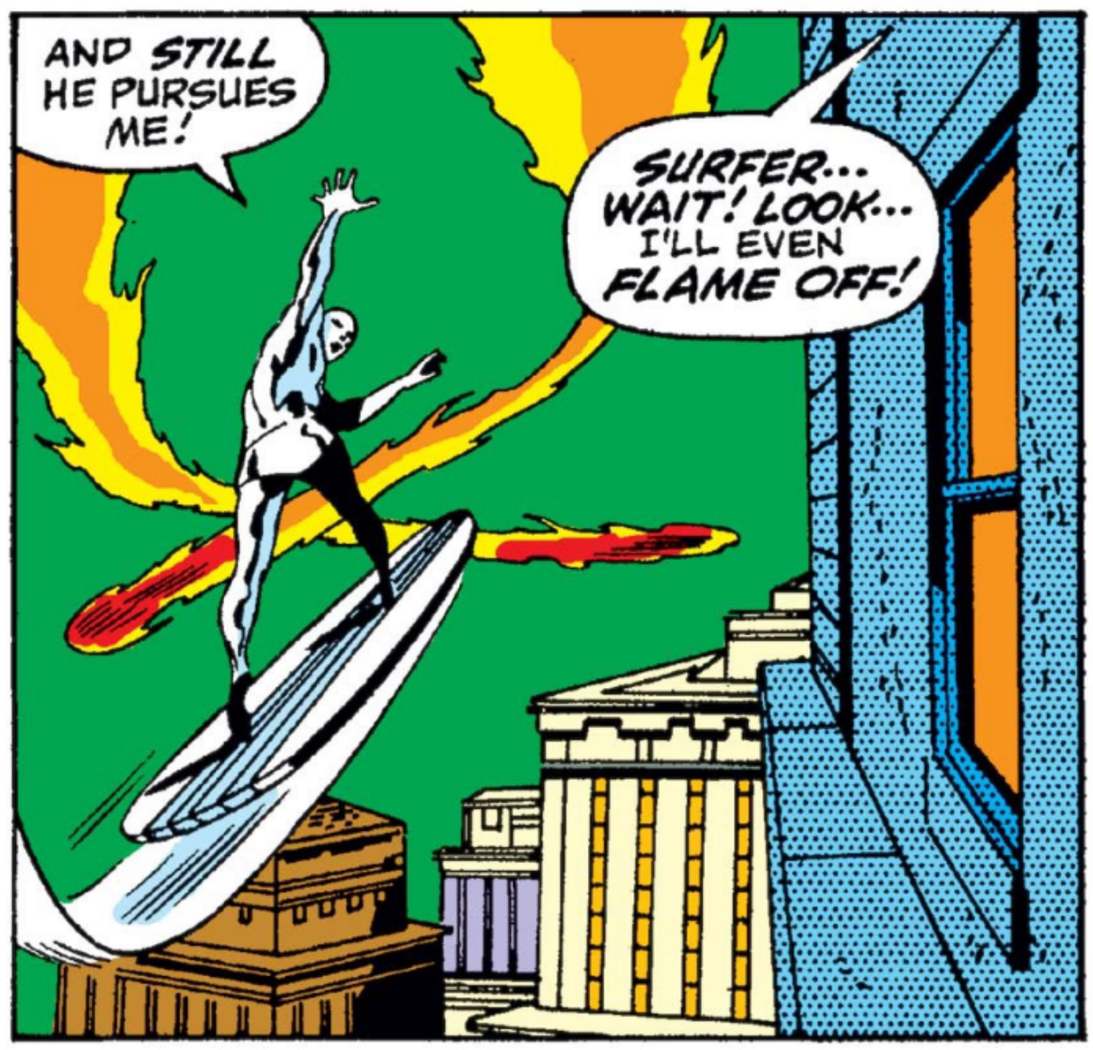
IN MY HASTE... TO OUT-DISTANCE THE TORCH...
...I FORGOT THE INVISIBLE BARRIER... OF GALACTUS!


NOW, EVEN AS I FALL... HE ATTACKS AGAIN!
DUNNO WHAT HAPPENED UP THERE...
BUT I'VE GOT HIM NOW!
13.


HIS BOARD!
HE---CAN MAKE IT OBEY--- HIS EVERY THOUGHT!


I HAVE NO WISH TO HARM THE TORCH!
PERHAPS NOW HE WILL ABANDON THE BATTLE!

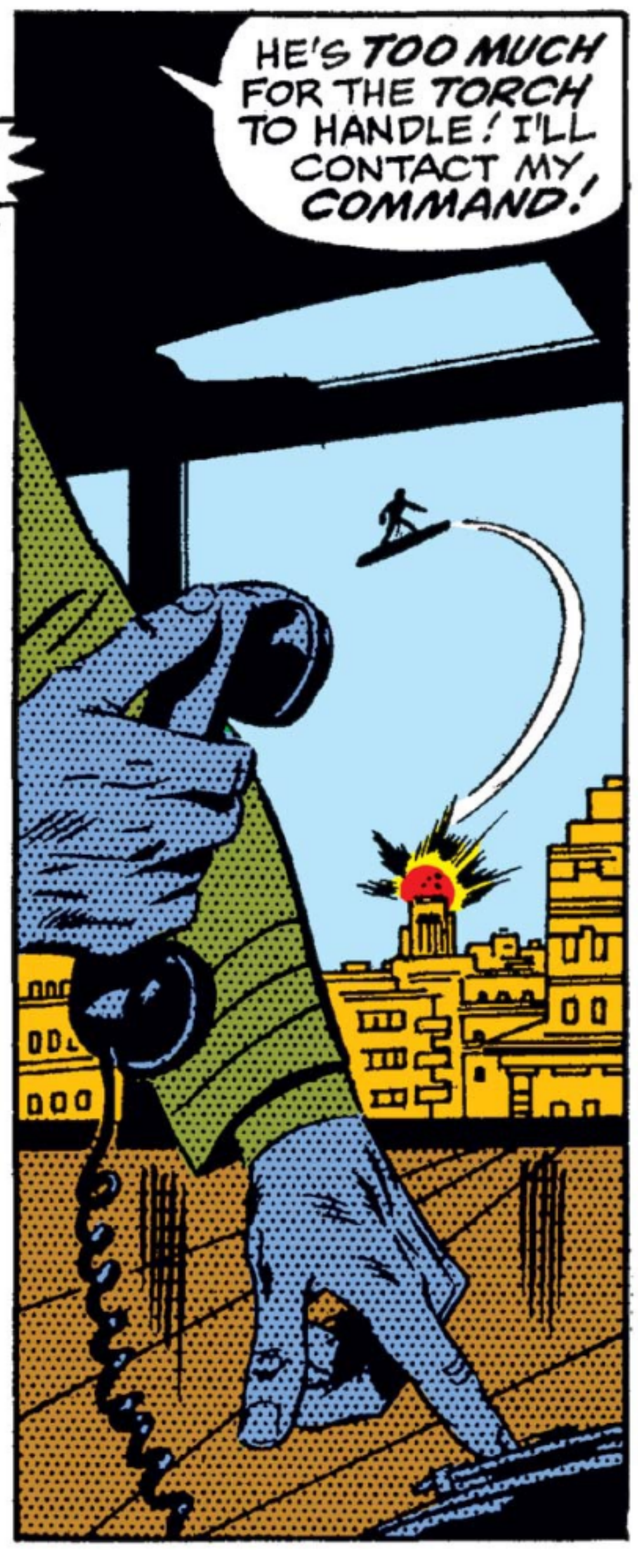
BUT, IF NOT...
I WILL SEEK TO LOSE MYSELF AMONGST THE SPIRES OF THE CITY!

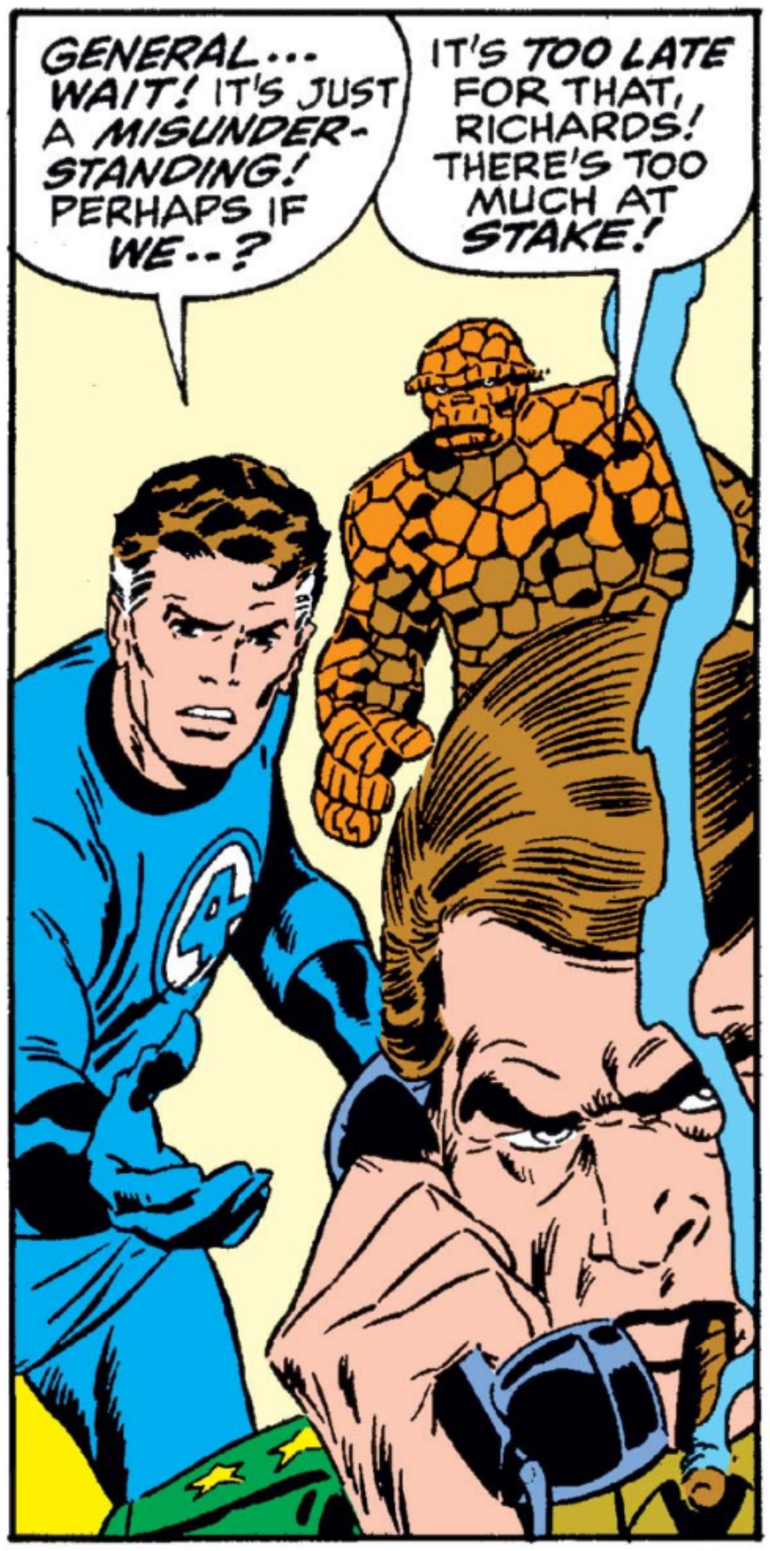

AND STILL HE PURSUES ME!
SURFER... WAIT! LOOK... I'LL EVEN FLAME OFF!

HERE! NOW YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY!
DO YOU THINK ME A FOOL?

HAVE I NOT BEEN DECEIVED ENOUGH ...NEVER WILL I TRUST ANOTHER HUMAN!
NO! WAIT! YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN...!

LISTEN? TO ONE WHO WOULD BETRAY A FRIEND?
NEVER!
ZAK!


HE'S TOO MUCH FOR THE TORCH TO HANDLE! I'LL CONTACT MY COMMAND!

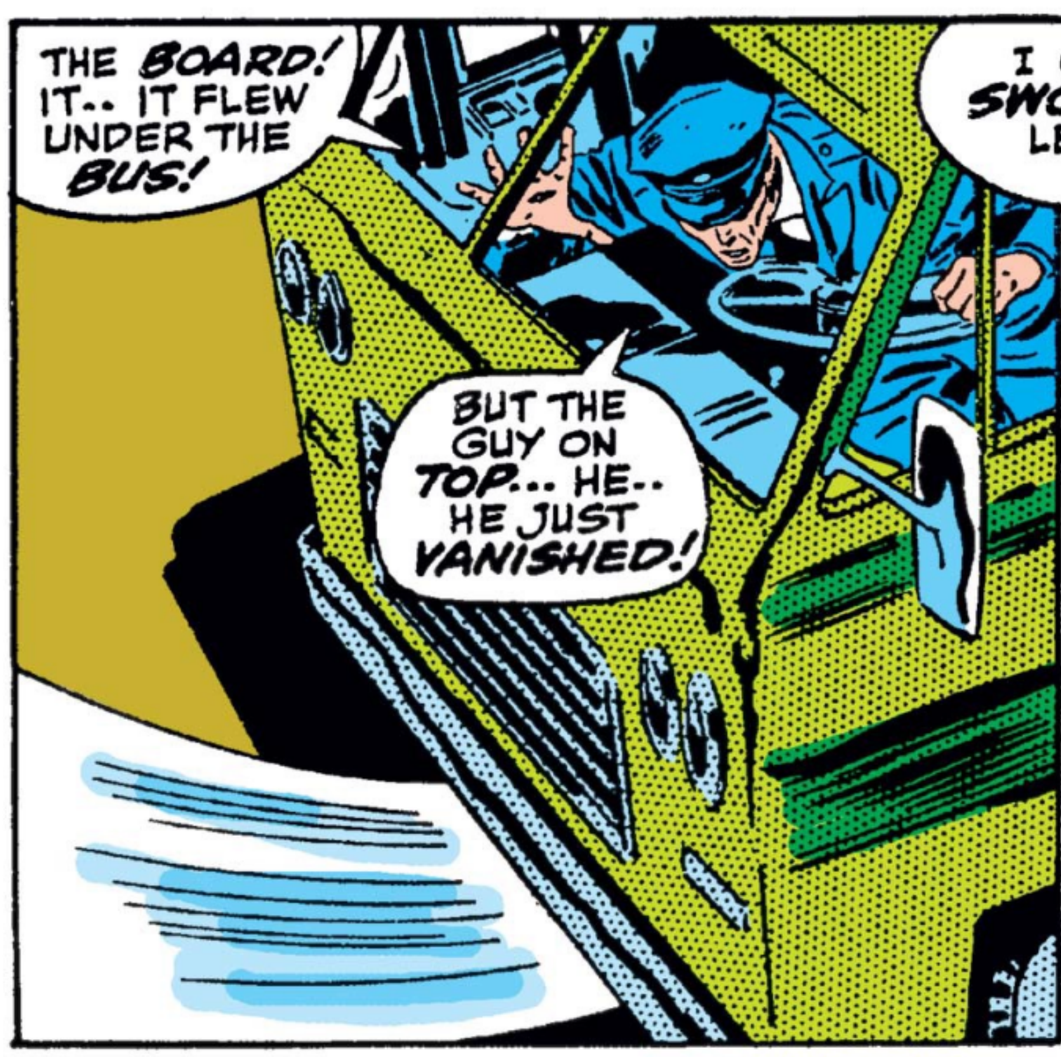

GENERAL... WAIT! IT'S JUST A MISUNDERSTANDING! PERHAPS IF WE..?
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, RICHARDS! THERE'S TOO MUCH AT STAKE!

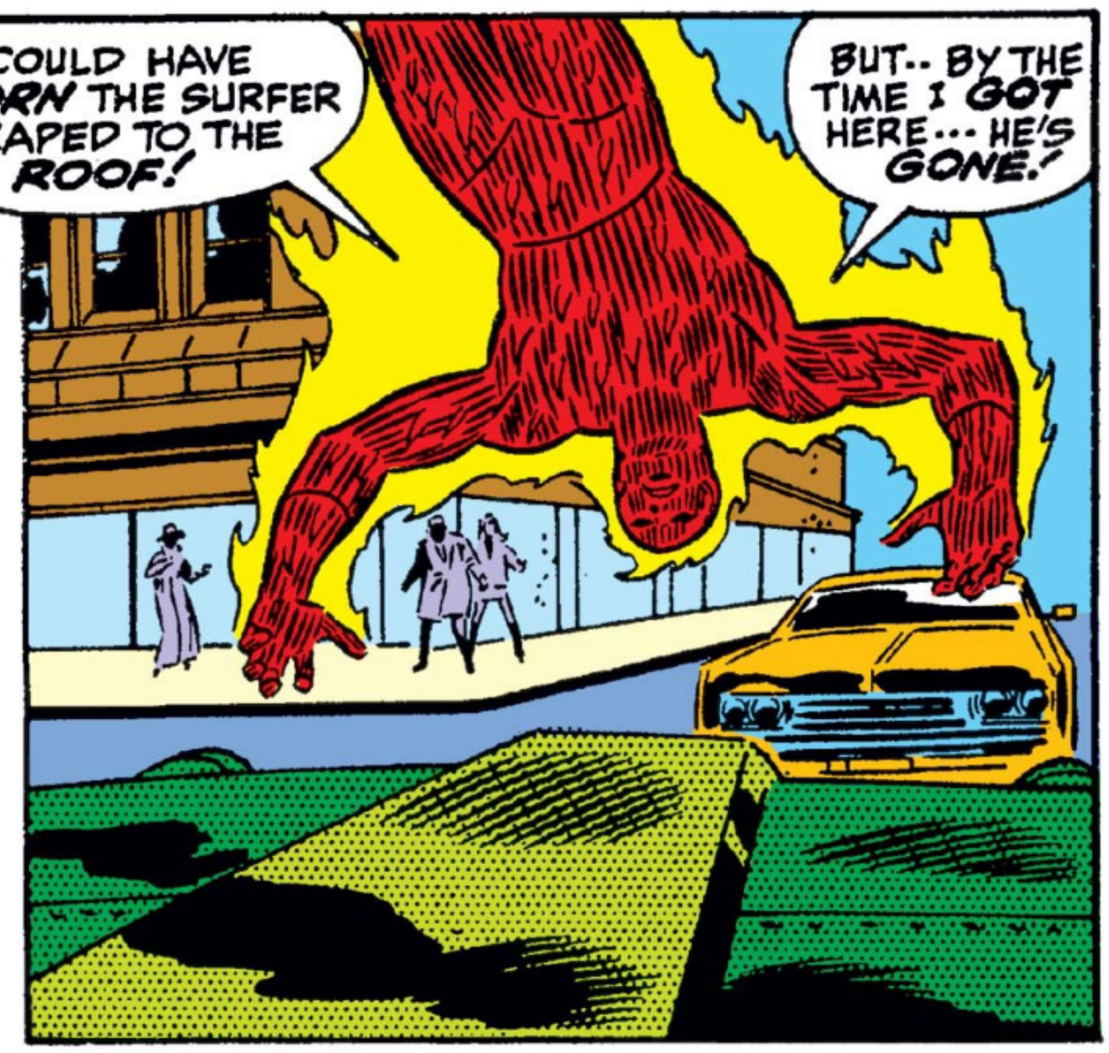
HEY, STRETCH... HOW'S ABOUT GOIN' AFTER 'EM IN THE POGO PLANE?
NO! SO FAR THE SURFER'S BEEN TAKING IT EASY WITH JOHNNY! BUT, IF HE SEES US..!
YOU HEARD ME! GET THAT BATTALION HERE ON THE DOUBLE!
GENERAL... IF THE SURFER PANICS... ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!

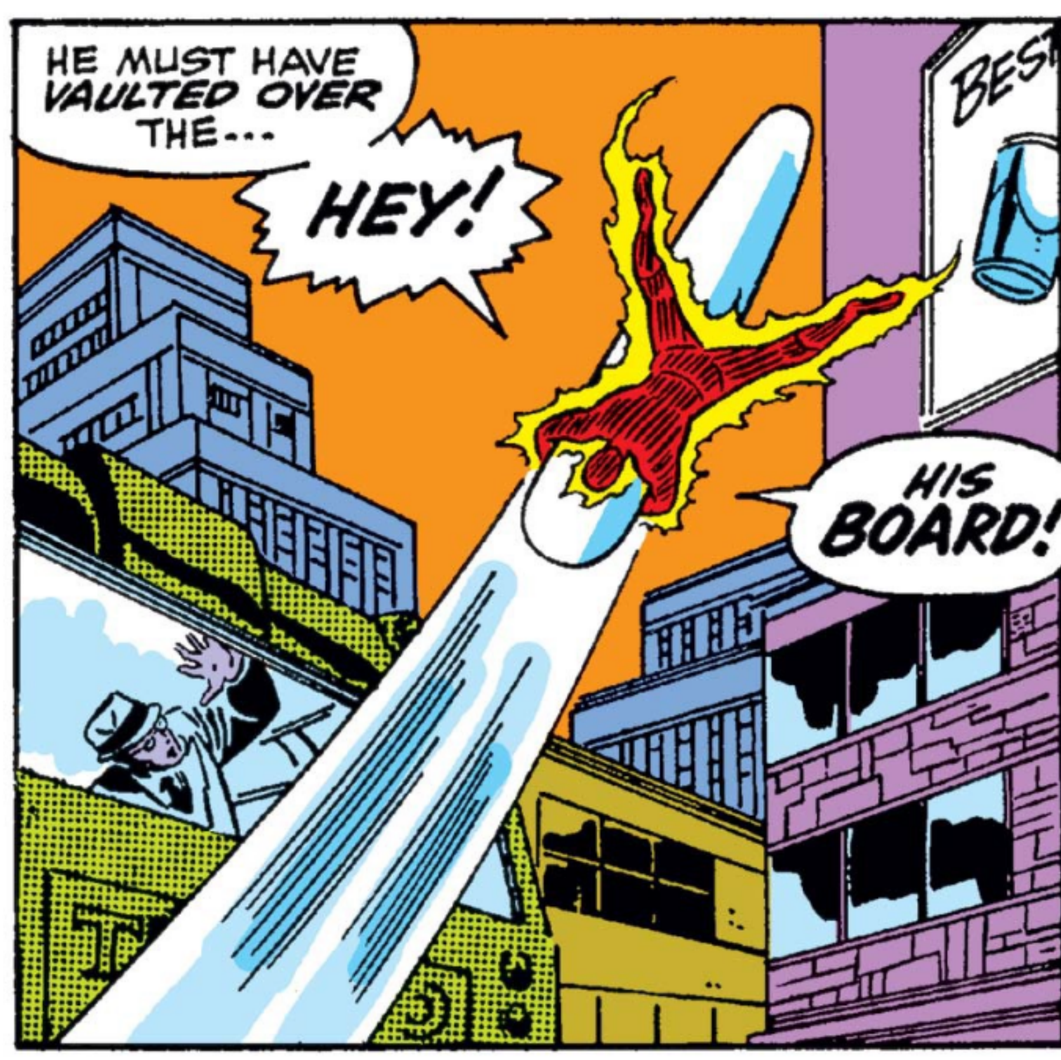
MEANWHILE...
HE WILL NOT DARE USE HIS FLAME NEAR THE PEDESTRIANS BELOW!
FFICE
ES
MATERIALS
NK

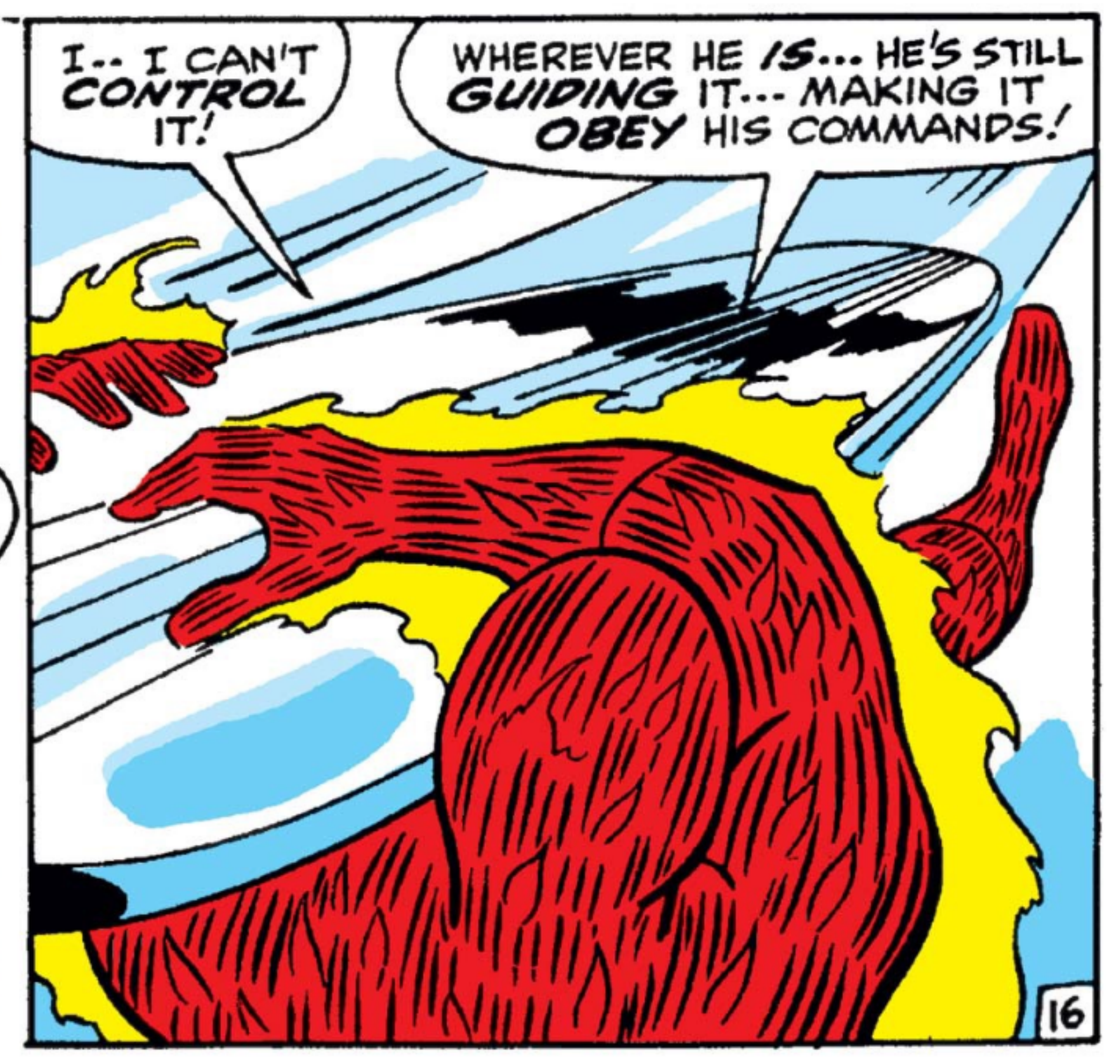
NOW PLAYING
THUS, I MUST RETURN... TO THOSE WHO DESPISE ME!

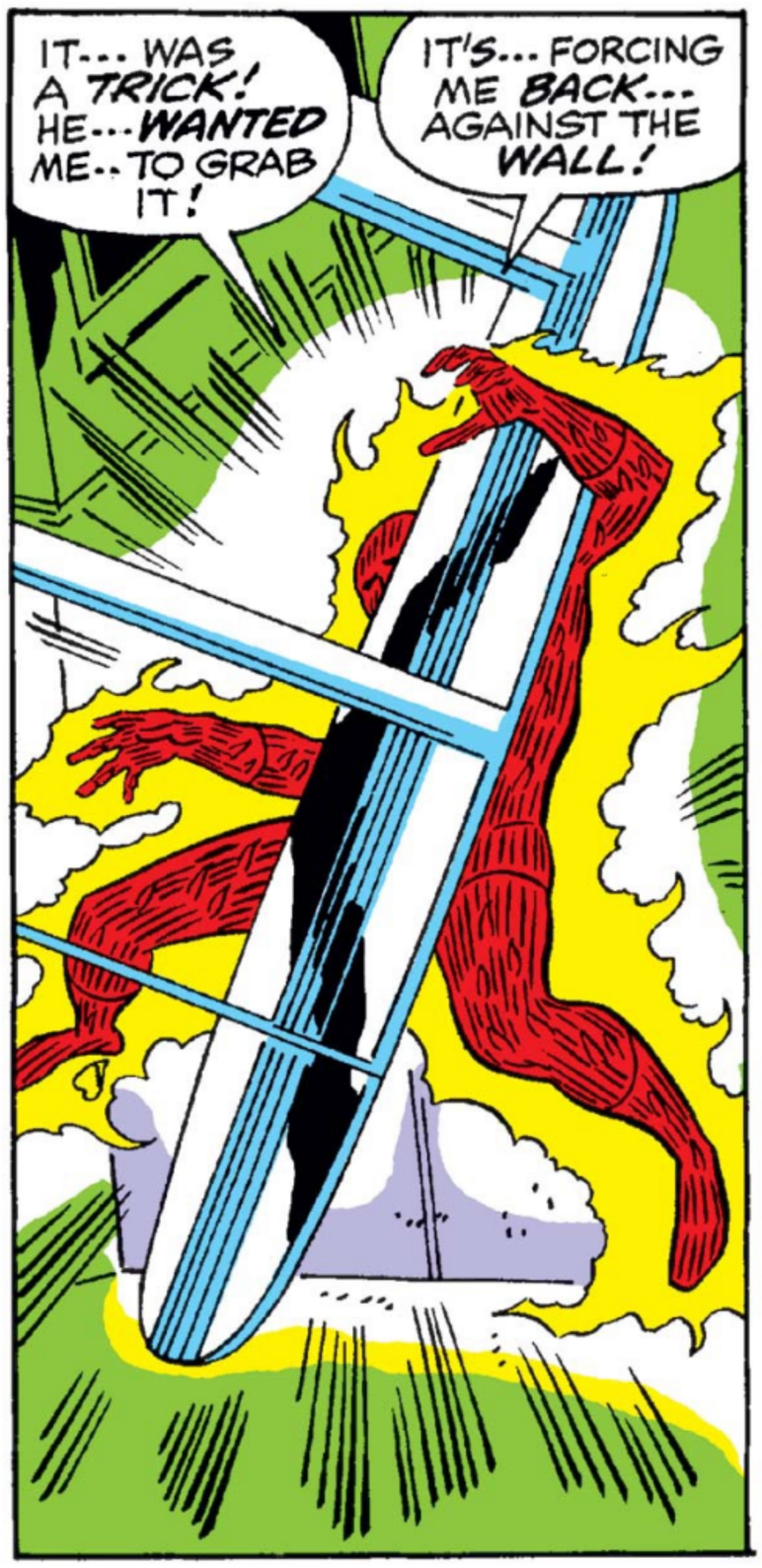
OH, NO! NOOOO!
SMOKING PROHIBITED

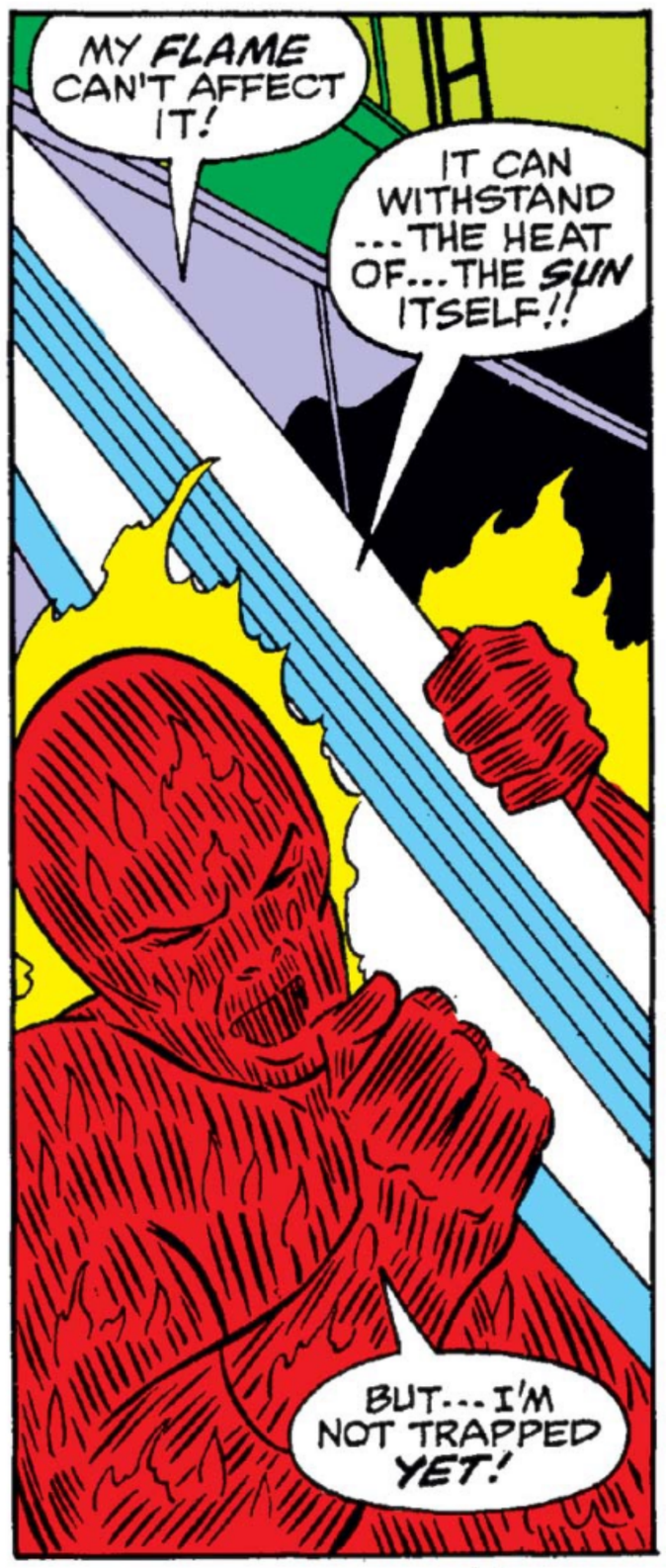

THE BOARD! IT.. IT FLEW UNDER THE BUS!
BUT THE GUY ON TOP... HE.. HE JUST VANISHED!

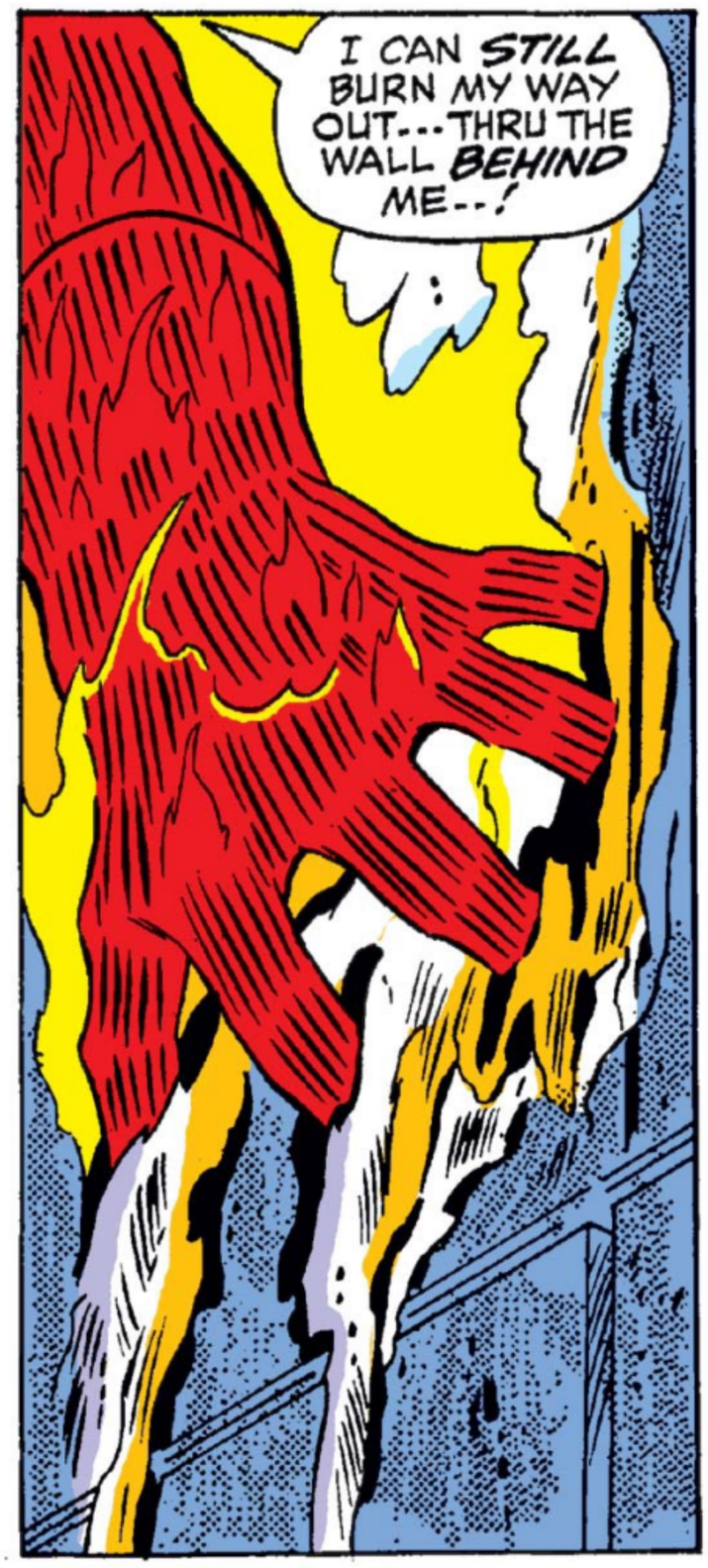

I COULD HAVE SWORN THE SURFER LEAPED TO THE ROOF!
BUT.. BY THE TIME I GOT HERE... HE'S GONE!


HE MUST HAVE VAULTED OVER THE...
HEY!
BES
HIS BOARD!

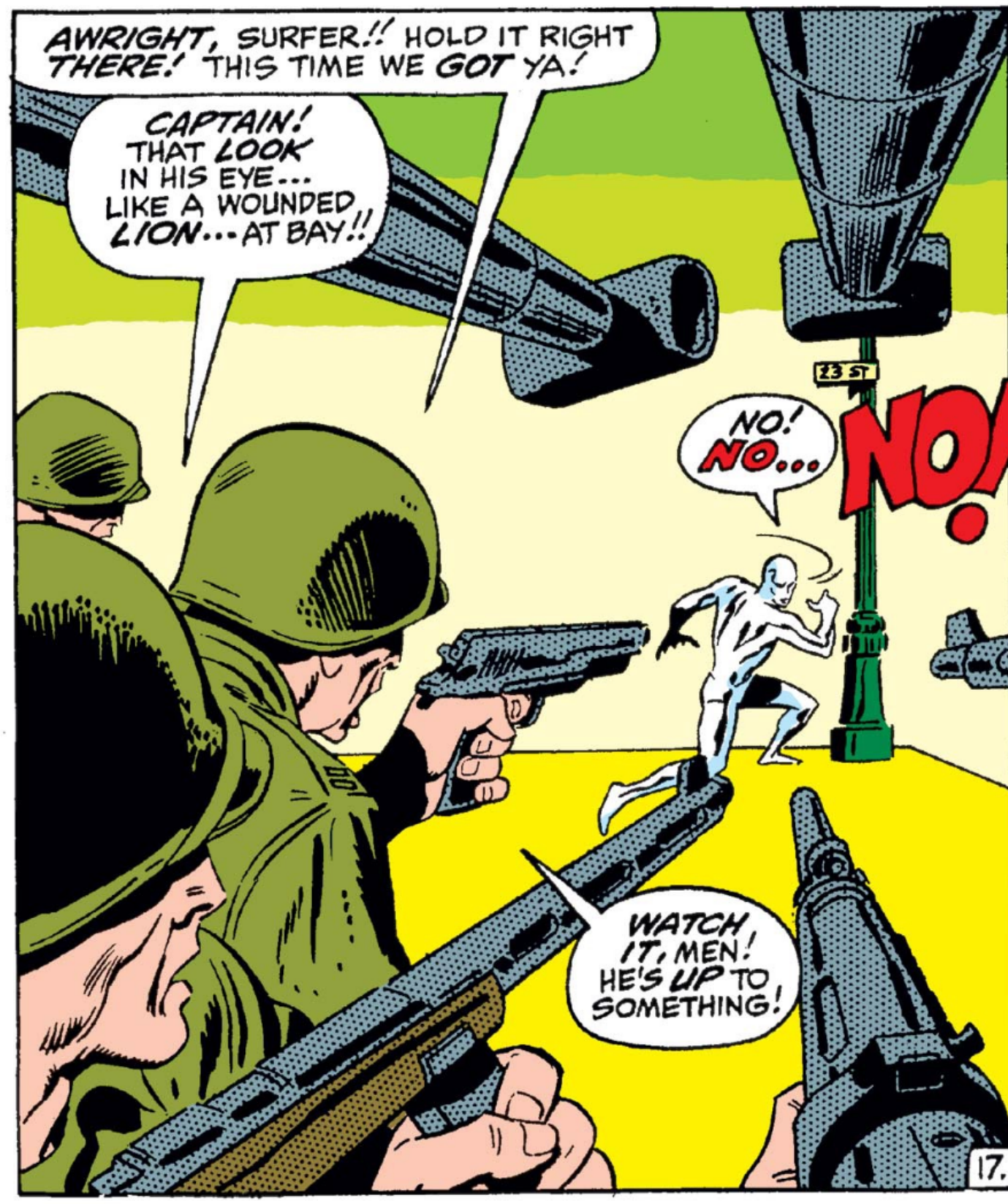

I.. I CAN'T CONTROL IT!
WHEREVER HE IS... HE'S STILL GUIDING IT... MAKING IT OBEY HIS COMMANDS!

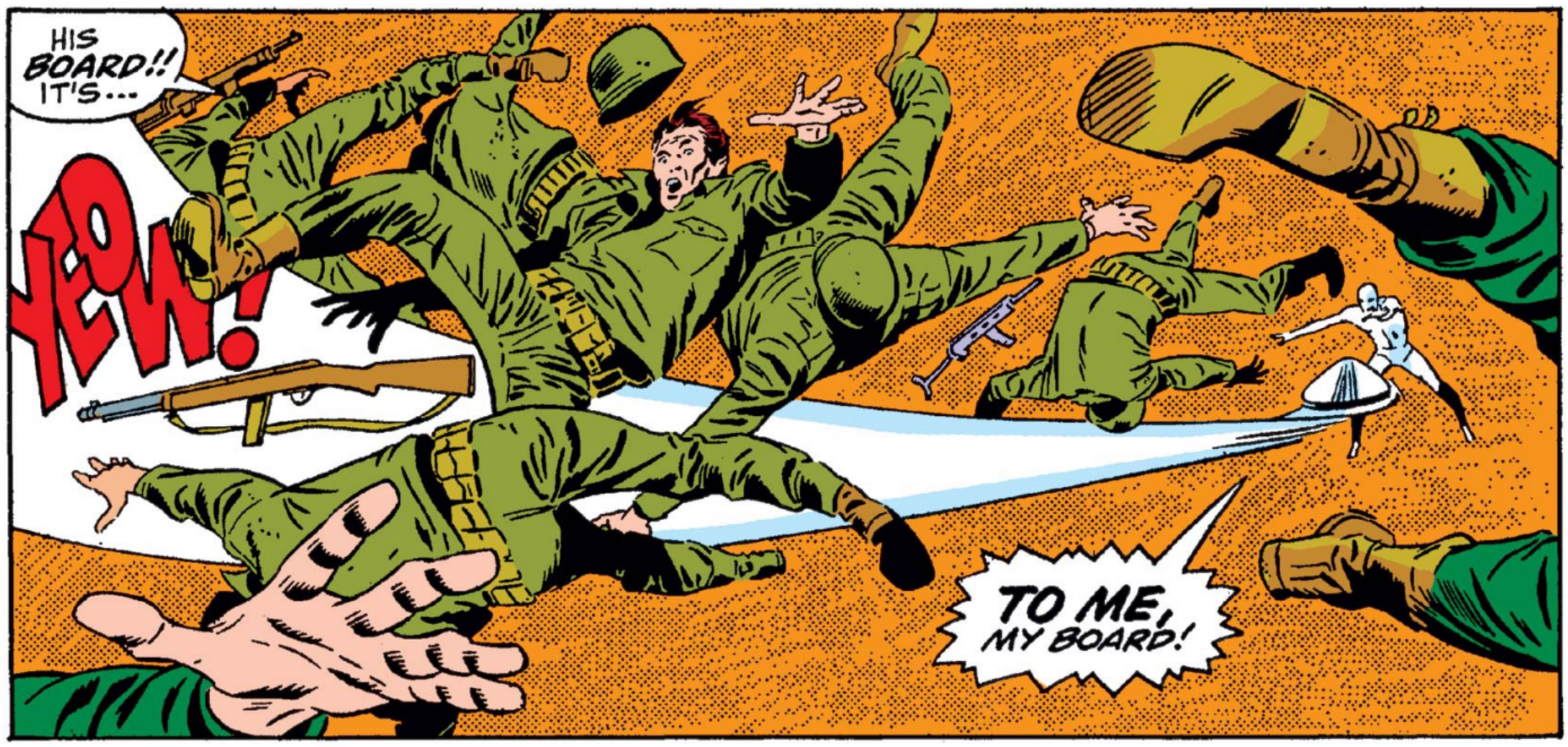

IT... WAS A TRICK! HE... WANTED ME.. TO GRAB IT!
IT'S... FORCING ME BACK... AGAINST THE WALL!


MY FLAME CAN'T AFFECT IT!
IT CAN WITHSTAND ...THE HEAT OF... THE SUN ITSELF!!
BUT... I'M NOT TRAPPED YET!

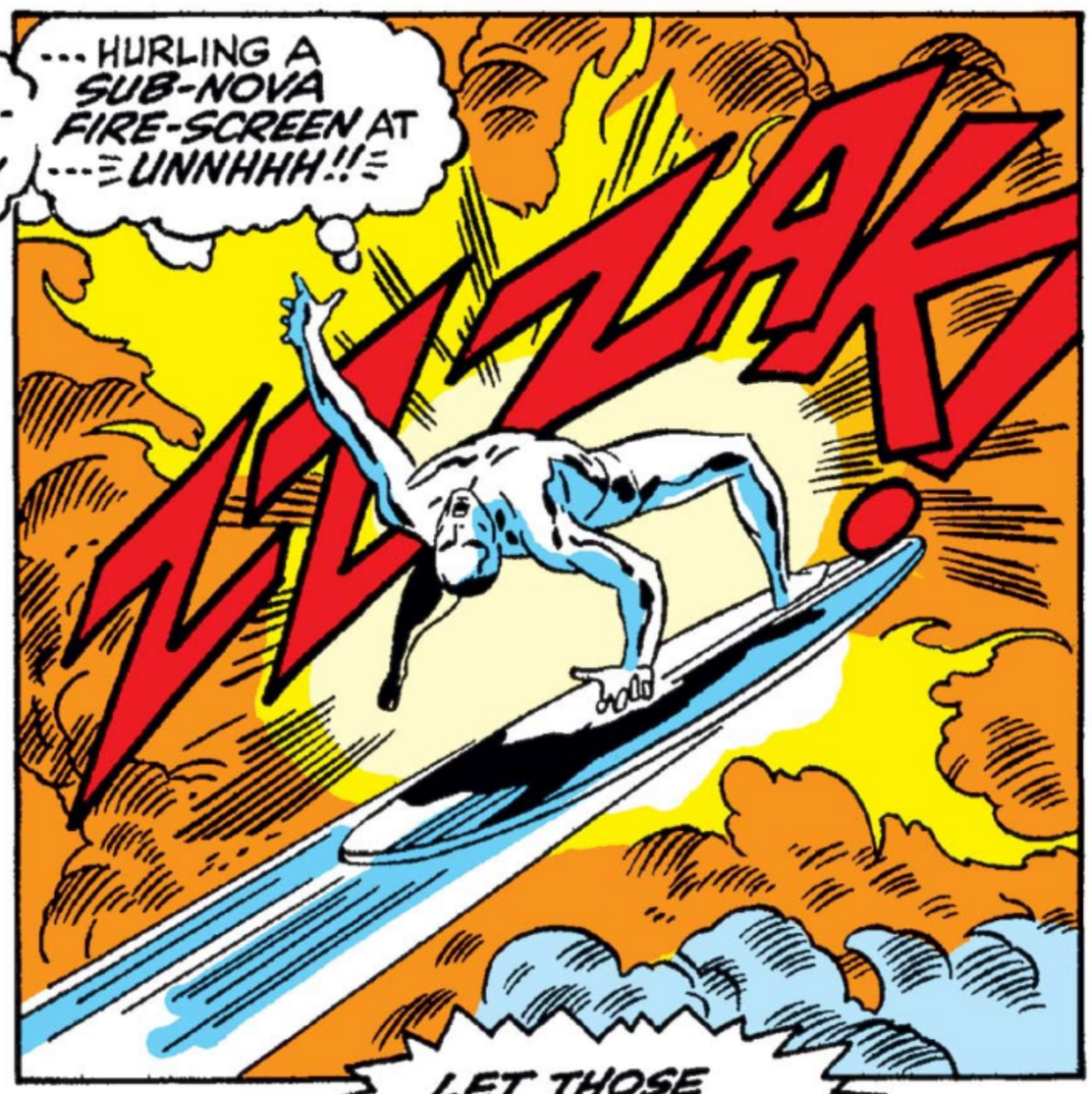

I CAN STILL BURN MY WAY OUT... THRU THE WALL BEHIND ME--!

SOONER OR LATER THE TORCH WILL SET HIMSELF FREE...
AND THEN THE BATTLE WILL BEGIN ANEW!
DO I CONTINUE TO FLEE... OR STRIKE BACK IN RAGE...
WHY MUST IT EVER BE THUS? WHY CAN I NEVER FIND... PEACE?
AVE
U.S. MAIL


AWRIGHT, SURFER!! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! THIS TIME WE GOT YA!
CAPTAIN! THAT LOOK IN HIS EYE... LIKE A WOUNDED LION... AT BAY!!
23 ST
NO! NO...
NO!
WATCH IT, MEN! HE'S UP TO SOMETHING!

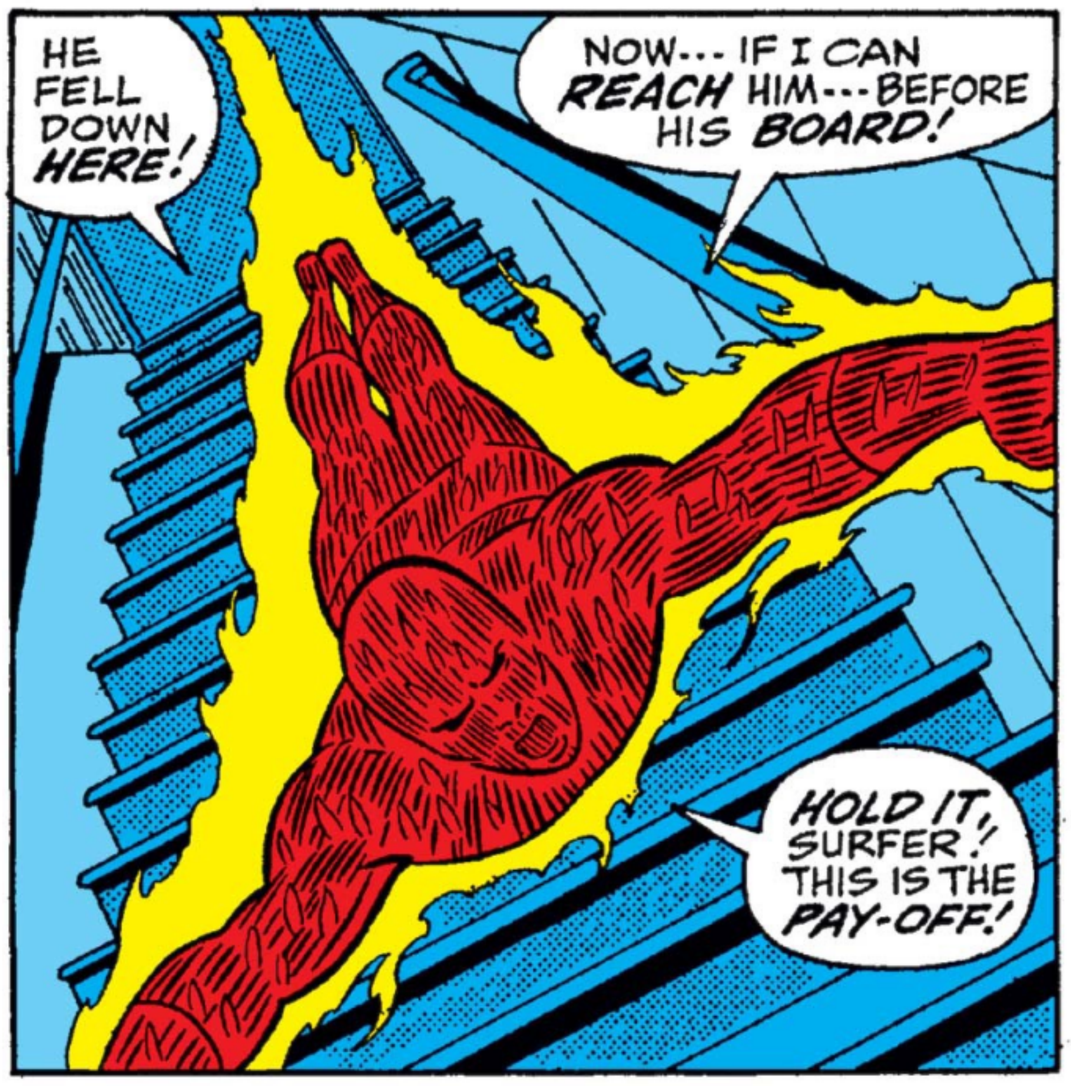

HIS BOARD!! IT'S...
YEW!
TO ME, MY BOARD!

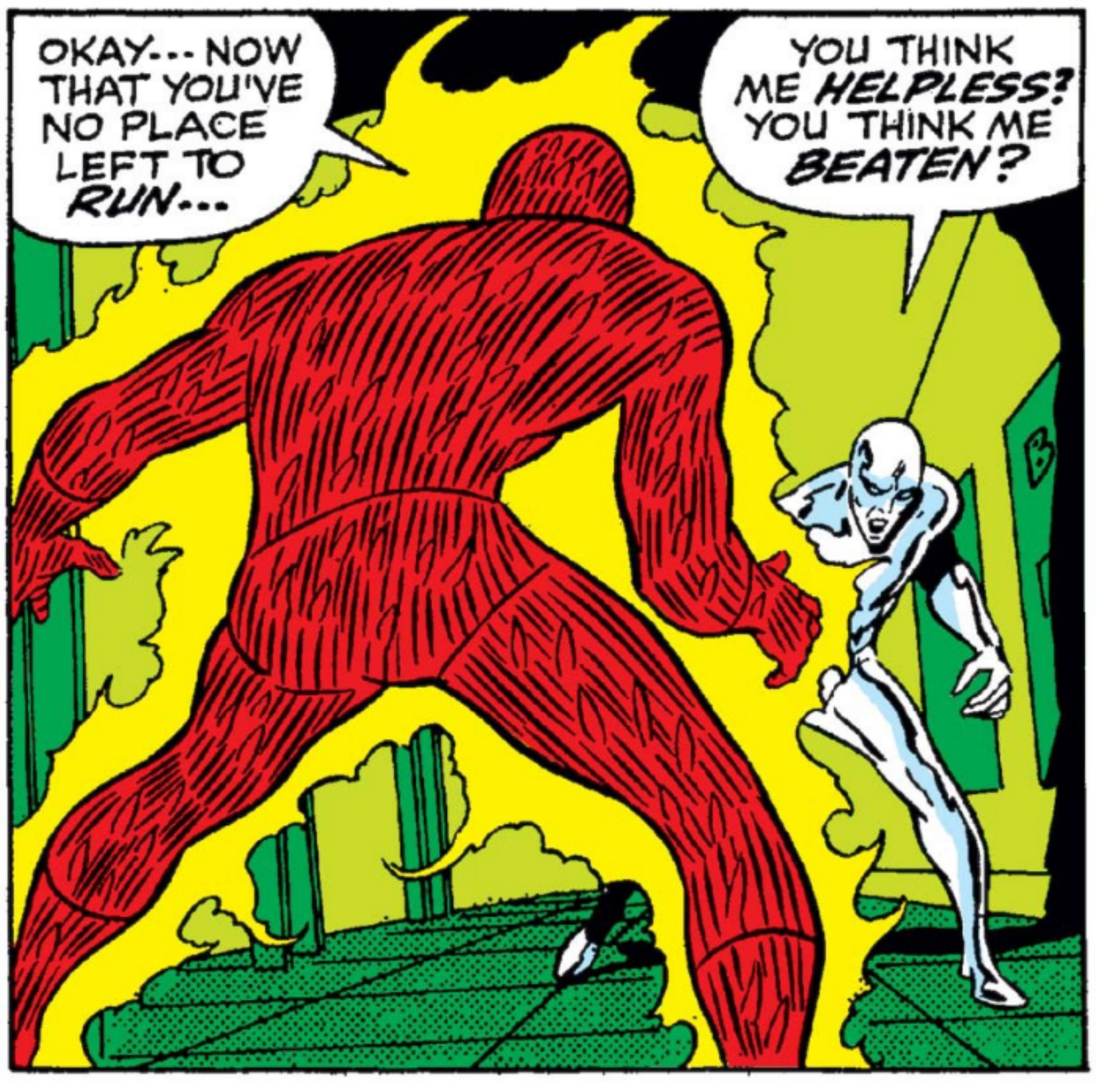
FOR YOUR OWN SAKES ... I ASK YOU ...I BEG YOU...
PROVOKE ME NO MORE!
THE TORCH.. DIVING AHEAD!

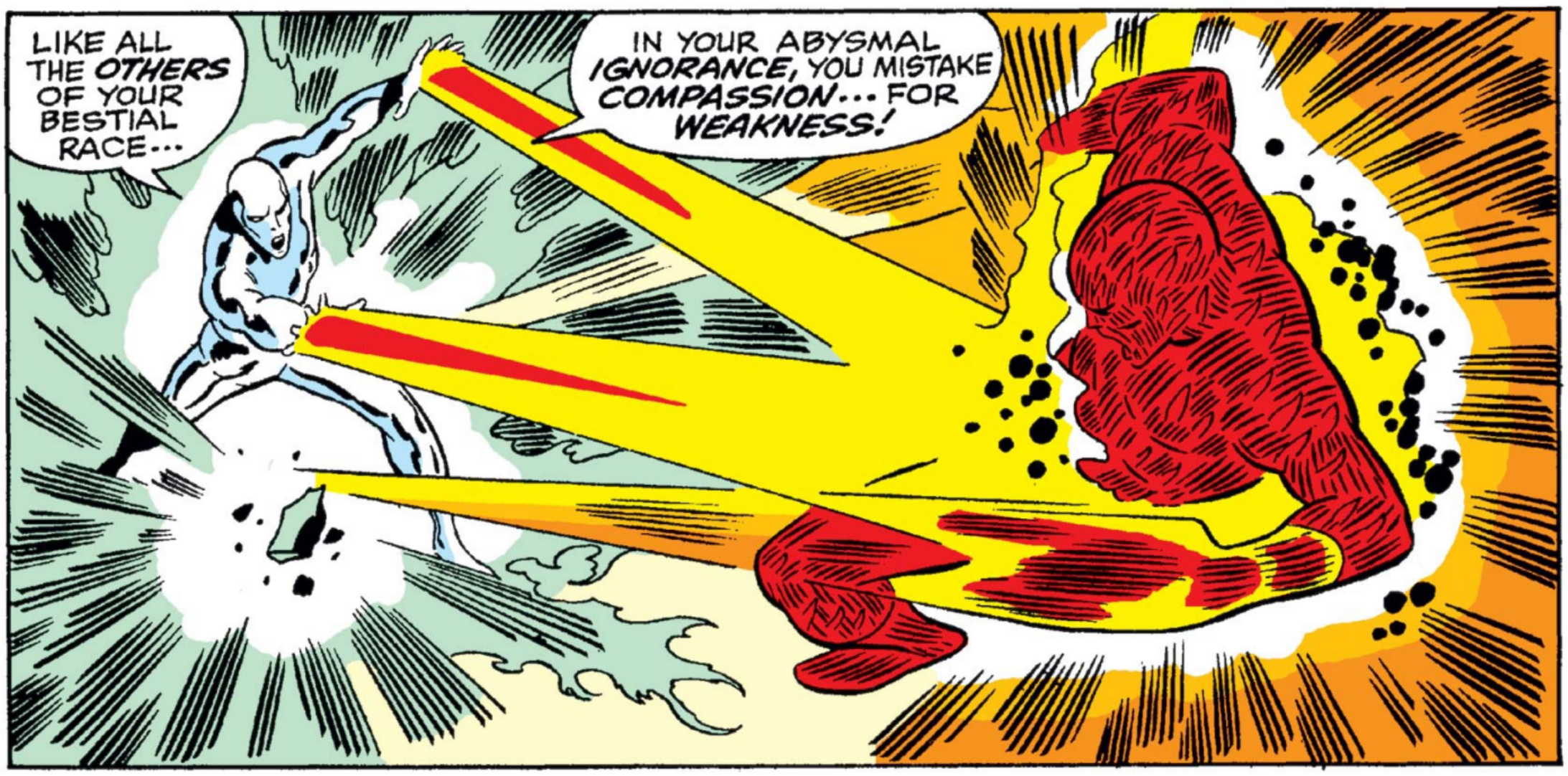

...HURLING A SUB-NOVA FIRE-SCREEN AT ...=UNNHHH!!=
ZAK!

THUD!
THOP!
GLORY BE! WHAT'S THIS??

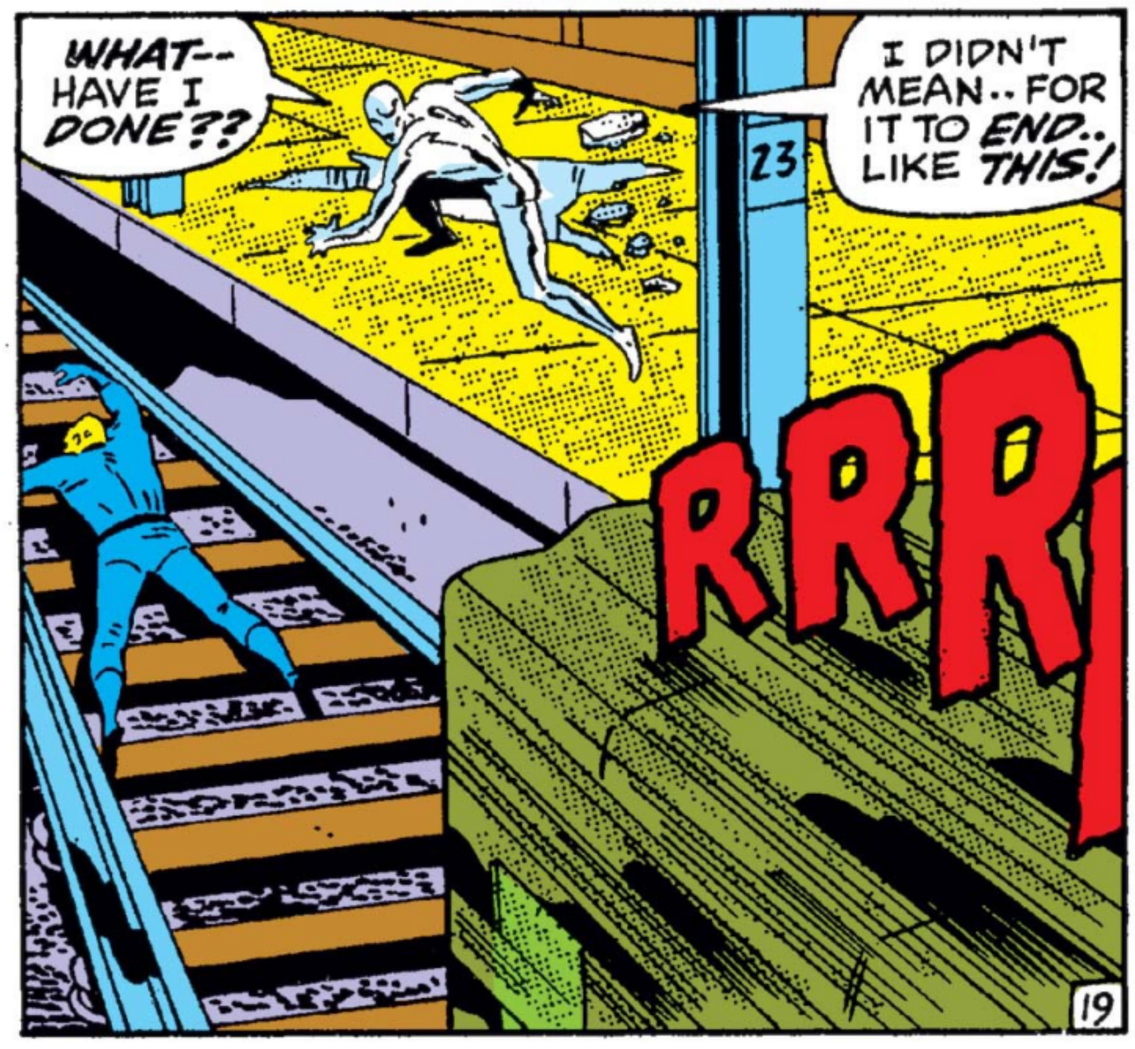
LET THOSE WITHIN HEARING BE WARNED...
I WILL ENDURE NO MORE!

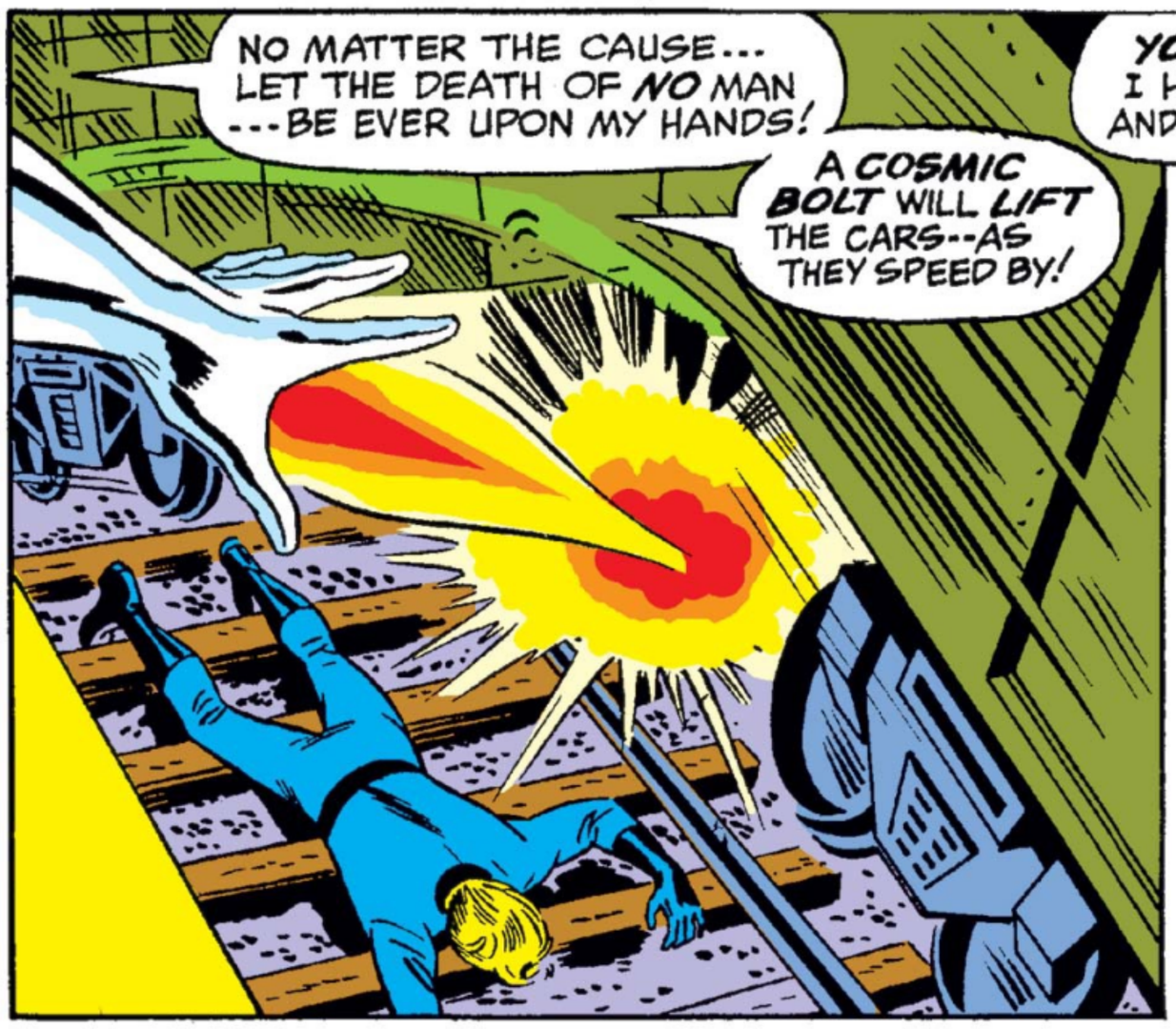

HE FELL DOWN HERE!
NOW... IF I CAN REACH HIM... BEFORE HIS BOARD!
HOLD IT, SURFER! THIS IS THE PAY-OFF!

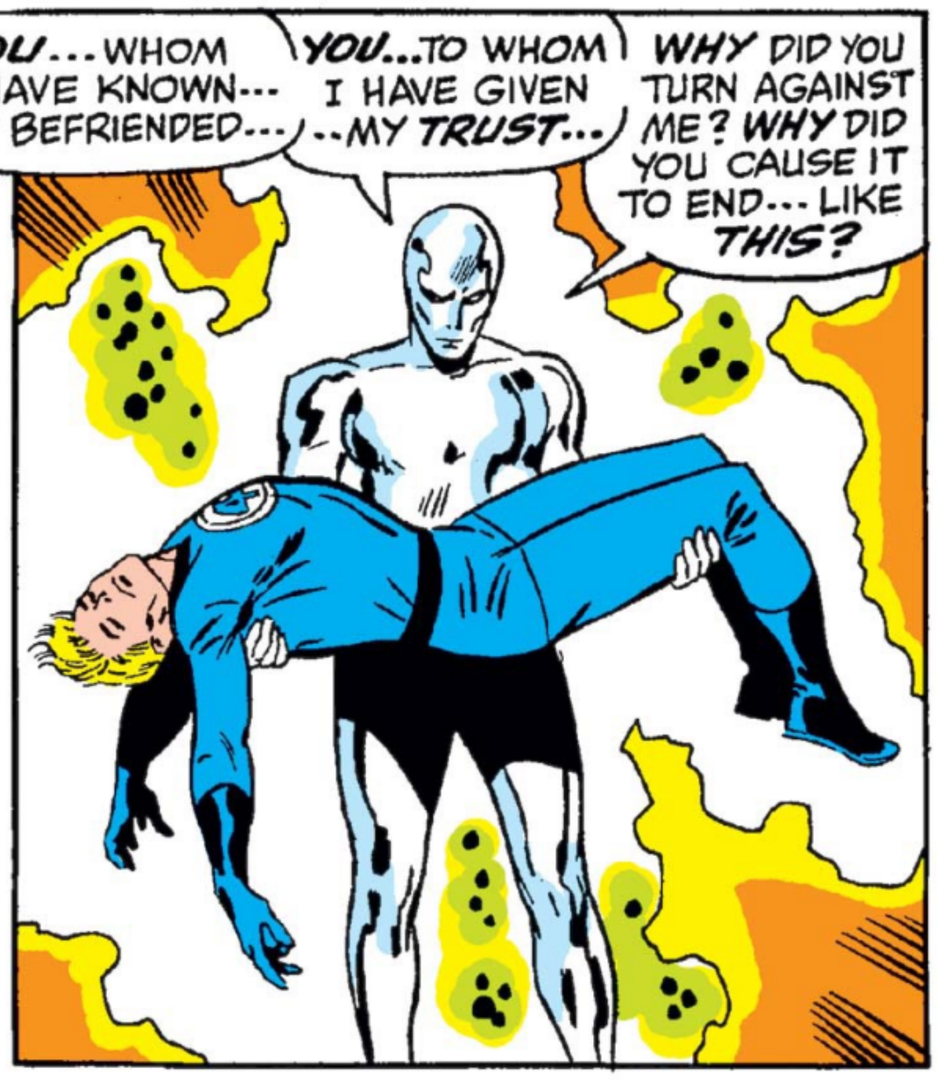

OKAY... NOW THAT YOU'VE NO PLACE LEFT TO RUN...
YOU THINK ME HELPLESS? YOU THINK ME BEATEN?

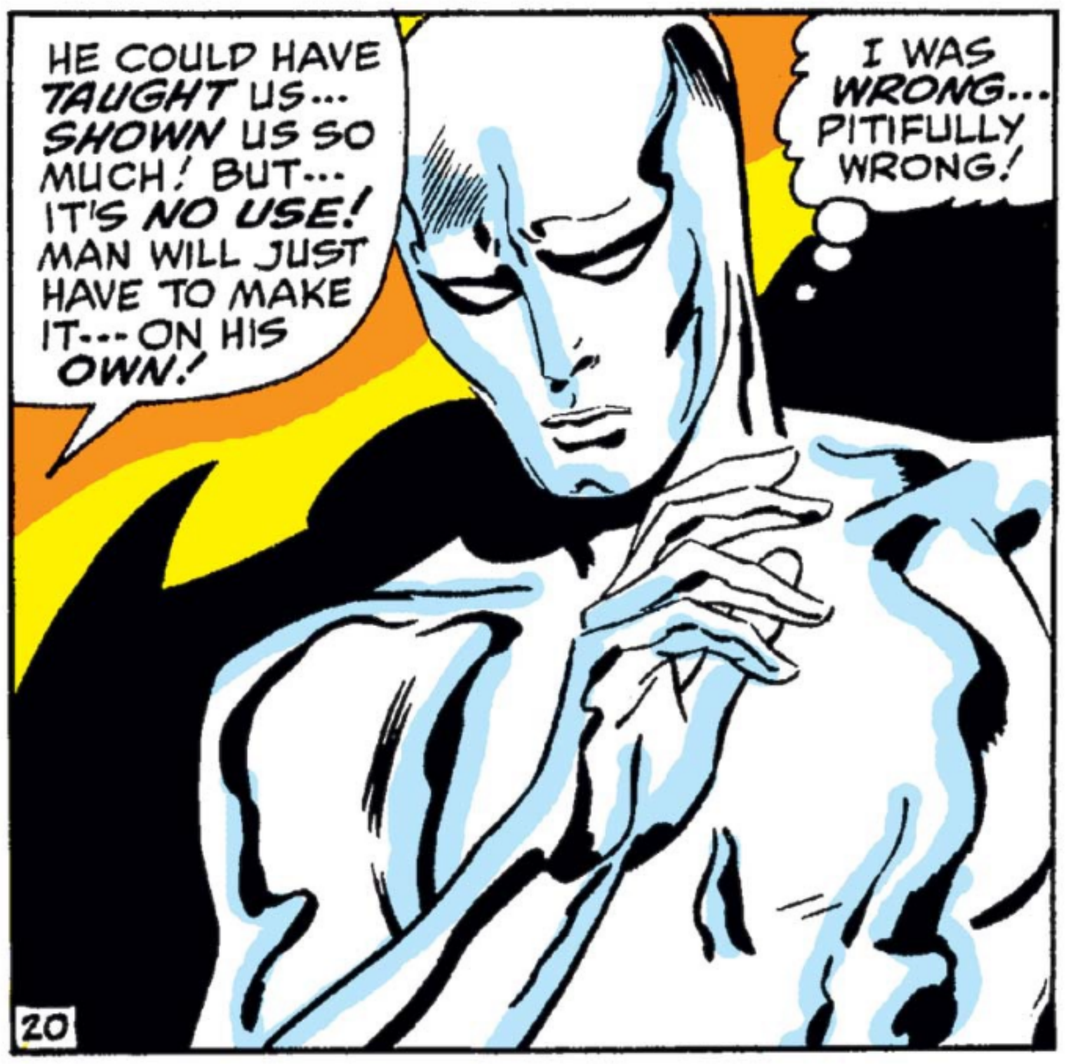

LIKE ALL THE OTHERS OF YOUR BESTIAL RACE...
IN YOUR ABYSMAL IGNORANCE, YOU MISTAKE COMPASSION... FOR WEAKNESS!

BUT YOU WILL DO SO... NO MORE!!


WHAT-- HAVE I DONE??
I DIDN'T MEAN.. FOR IT TO END.. LIKE THIS!
23
RRR







NEXT: MEPHISTO WINS!

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE SURFER!?

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE. N.Y., N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and John,

So Mephisto has the last laugh after all, in #11. The Surfer, on page 13, asks the partisans if they never see mercy and forgiveness: "You are murderers all . . . but I'll not be a part of your madness!" Then on page 19, a cosmic blast and three dead men——"Though more than human——he is less than divine!" Mephisto's words have certainly been proven. Norrin Radd has fallen to the level of a human murderer——I see no remorse at all in his eyes. Both a killer and a hypocrite, the Surfer is no longer the Christ-like outcast. He has joined the human race; become, after all, a part of our worst madness. We knew that humanity had no reason to fear him, for he was one of the truly moral beings of all. Now, however, I wonder. I'm sorry to have seen the fall of a hero.

Martin O'Hearn, Brighton, Mass.

The Surfer himself says, just two pages before the blast, "That most cowardly blast would have slain Norrin Radd . . . But no more weapon can fell the space-born Silver Surfer!" But, when the Surfer unleashes the cosmic blast, he is not alone——the wounded Shalla Bal lies dying in his arms. He must protect her at all costs, for the good must prosper at the cost of the evil. We'd be the last to condone killing, Martin, but after all, when it does get down to "it's them or us," would you have Shalla Bal die, so that those who are part of that worst madness score another victory?

To Stan Lee and John Buscema of Earth,

I, Galactus, came to Earth to observe and decide the fate of Norrin Radd. I soon discovered that his travels were beyond my reach. So, I ordered you to record the Surfer's adventures. I live now under the guise of Thomas Oberlin. I have a subscription to the Surfer's 15¢ biographical magazine and was shocked at the occurence in SS #10. I had been told by the Kree that this had happened to some creature called Captain Mar-Vell and a Colonel Yon-Rogg. I was relieved when it ended in the next issue. But that is meaningless when I see what you puny beings have done to my former herald; and I do not approve. The Surfer is tortured because he is different. The baboon is ugly to man, but who can say man is not ugly to the baboon? I warn you, humans, my patience wears thin! The will of Galactus is final.

Tom 'Galactus' Oberlin, 826 Park Ave.
New Haven, Ind. 46774

We know only too well the depths of your rage, Tom. (You don't mind us calling you that, do you?) The day when all beings accept and respect their fellow creatures sometimes seems like a long way off, but the wheels are in motion. That's what we're all about. So don't lose that patience——you know what they say about Rome!

Dear Stan and John,

Let me see if I've got this straight. According to SILVER SURFER #10 and #11, Shalla Bal, who has waited however-long she has waited for Norrin Radd, and who has taken a voyage through space with the worst pill on Zenn-La to find him, catches sight of a girl kissing him as they both flee from the battle-torn center of town and instantly assumes the Surfer has given her up.

Fellows, I don't believe it!!!

Let us disregard the picture of the Surfer taking his "new girl" on a date over a battlefield amid a hail of artillery fire. It is sensible compared to the idea of the loyal, faithful soul-mate of Norrin Radd assuming the worst at the drop of a hat. Those two, with countless light-years between them, had one of the best understandings of all the Marvel couples. Now——

I hope I haven't upset you because I have a question to ask. Since you've repeated the title that was such a success in SPIDER-MAN #60, I would like to know if "O, Bitter Victory" is a quotation. If so, what is the complete quotation? If it's original, congratulations; it's got a beautiful ring.

Michael Susko Jr., 96 S. 17th St.
San Jose, Cal.

Thanks for the congrats, Mike; to the best of our knowledge "O, Bitter Victory" is a Smiley original (if it's not, there's more than one great writer in this world!) And as for the Surfer and Shalla Bal——as the Surfer's last words indicate in ish #11, " . . . in our hearts, we shall ever be one!" We don't mean to be syrupy sweet, but you know what they say——"love conquers all!" Keep the faith!

KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (Real Frantic One)—A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.

T.T.B. (Titanic True Believer) — A divinely-inspired 'No-Prize' winner.

Q.N.S. (Quite 'Nuff Sayer) — A fortunate frantic one who's had a letter printed.

K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.

P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximus) —Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.

F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and fellow geniuses,

After having read every item on the Surfer since he made his first appearance, I can't believe that you would seriously consider Galactus' elimination. The idea that "It's him or us" sounds like something I heard before from both the legions of the army and the minions of hatred on campuses. Could you so soon forget the words of the Surfer (#11) when he was asked why he did not kill the troops of the occupying army:

"You are murders all––but I'll not be a part of your madness.
You see only good and bad . . . right and wrong.
Do you never see mercy? Are you blind to forgiveness?"

Think about it a moment. It would be no more justified to murder Galactus than it would be to permit your exemplary mags to become corrupted by those who preach vengeance and hate as forms of justice.

The question still remain as to what we can do with Galactus. Right now the poor guy's got one heck of a complex. He's let himself think about those he has to destroy to appease his hunger, and it horrifies him. With all the brains Marvel has running around (Henry Pym, Reed Richards, Tony Stark, Bruce Banner, Dr. Don Blake, and even Dr. Strange) I'm sure they could find a new form of energy so that Galactus might live. Don't allow yourself to murder Galactus––if you do, you'll be false to your own ideals. Let Galactus ask for help––and let it be given!

The Peacemaker, University of Rochester
Rochester, New York

We certainly couldn't disagree with such compassionate and understanding advice. And, if everybody felt the way you do, we probably wouldn't have all these sad stories to tell . . .

Greetings, Stan and John,

Out of the cobwebs of the intellectual community keens the voice of the impartial observer who feels betrayed. For years I have followed the Watcher's solitary path through the cosmos with devoted attention. Who could fail, I thought, to respect one who understood that interference often results in unwanted by-products. Suffice to point out to society the folly of its action and hope the gleam of understanding might penetrate the ridiculous. (Did not Euripides hope to instill respect for the gods by ridiculing the inanities of popular superstition? How much more do we respect the words of the poet than the deed of the warrior-karl who with fire and sword converted the Saxons.)

Now the student of history feels perturbed that the Watcher be identified with a (rank) historian such as Ranke whose objectivity sua natura was prejudiced, while the thought that the philosophy of the Establishment might ever reach outer space is enough to make one envy Alan Swan.

Nay, let the Watcher continue to "view dispassionately an imperfect world" but sui generis range through space and time, quietly and unobtrustively clarifying for us time-bound investigators the ugly realities behind folk memories.

Continue to supply us the fruits of perfected alienation.

Sagittarius, Center of Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Let it suffice to say, "We shall reap what we shall sow." Excelsior!

Dear Stan and John,

Please! I usually follow the discussions on various non-comic-book subjects with interest and enjoyment, but I must beg you not to let the Silver Surfer's letters page be brought down to a discussion on the do's and don't's of Christianity. My main reasoning is this: although he is the embodiment of most Christian concepts, he is not a Christian (or at least no religion has been specified in his character.)

It would be ridiculous to say that Norrin Radd is more Christian than Jewish, for instance. Also, Christianity itself is a divided religion, and when the fans break it down in the letters pages, it could become a miniature World War III, Catholics vs. Protestants, etc. The ideals I hold true could represent any major religion in the world today.

The Surfer himself has the characteristics of a diety. His power is certainly super-human, and the morality he preaches is merely another guide for life, which is religion's main purpose. I hope you won't allow yourself to become embroiled in a religious conflict in your letters pages.

Nils Osmar, 1504 N. 85th St.
Seattle, Wash. 98103

In an attempt to practice what we preach, Nils, we must defend our position by saying that an intelligent, rational exchange of ideas is not the same as becoming embroiled in conflict. It is our responsibility not to ignore those topics which, although a bit controversial, are the concern of our readers. A refusal to bring topics to light which are very much a part of our lives (your own concern is proof of this) would be a cop-out of the highest degree. We'd just like to point out that the letter which caused your upset was simply a personal interpretation of the story we presented; and surely you'll have to admit that in a mag like SILVER SURFER, we'd never attempt to stifle individualism.

Dear Stan and John,

The cover of SILVER SURFER #11 was undoubtedly one of the best since comics began. The story and art inside came close to matching the cover in excellence.

To get to the point of this letter, I disagree with one statement made by Rudy Rankins, whose letter was printed in the aforesaid issue. "The Silver Surfer has in his power the energy of an entire solar system, but still has one weakness––Compassion." I think that Rudy has totally missed the point. The Silver Surfer put it best in ish #10: "They think peace denotes weakness, and savagery, strength." Violence and aggression, not compassion, are human weaknesses. Was it a weakness that saved the Surfer from the Flying Dutchman? I say nay to thee.

Not to say that the Silver Surfer has no weaknesses. The most evident is the violence which even he is forced to resort to. I haven't found any others.

Duane Stice, 149 Santa Helena #4
San Bruno, Cal.

We don't consider compassion a weakness either, Duane, but we often ponder the origin of that adage, "Nice guys finish last." Perhaps one day the Surfer will prove that isn't so.